

Autumn in Year 5!

Welcome back!

I hope you had a lovely summer holiday!

I am extremely excited to be working with you all for another year! We are lucky to have Mrs Kirk supporting us in class too each week this year. Mrs Jones will be covering the class on a Wednesday every other week.

We have some exciting learning coming up during this term: below is the key curriculum information for this term.

If you need any support, clarification or help at all please ask. Although I may not be able to help there and then, we can arrange a time for me to do so.

General Information:

The children will have swimming on Wednesdays each week from week 2. This means they will not have PE until spring term. A separate letter regarding this was sent out before the holidays and a reminder will be sent out in week 2. If you have not completed the consent form, please do so as soon as possible as it is a statutory part of the curriculum.

Homework:

We ask as much as possible that you support your children to complete their homework but do not complete it for them. It is important that the children start to become more independent for their later school life.

Children will be given a spelling test every week and new spellings will be sent home every Friday with their homework. Spelling tests will take place each Thursday.

Reading:

As in previous years, the children will come home with an individual reading book, which is at an appropriate level for their stage in reading and changed weekly.

They will also bring home a library book they have chosen themselves to help promote reading for pleasure. These books must be in school each Monday for our library session.

Please note any damaged or missing books will result in a £5 charge

As always, we ask for your support in reading with your children as much as possible.

Within class, each child will take part in Whole Class Reading sessions every day to help develop reading and comprehension skills. The children will be exploring a range of texts including fiction, non-fiction and poetry. They will also be exploring extracts throughout these lessons taken from various styles of text, some they may not have explored before. Thursday lessons will focus on developing their fluency and prosody when reading. Our whole class reading text this half term will be "Kensuke's Kingdom", another book by Michael Morpurgo who is an author I know the children enjoy exploring.

English:

In English, this term we will begin by looking at the “Place Value of Punctuation” where the children will be developing their knowledge and understanding of various word classes and grammatical terms to help embed their basic skills to help support them throughout the year.

Later in the term we will be reading “Tuesday” followed by “The Boy in the Tower”. I do ask that if you can avoid using these books at home please do. This allows the children to fully immerse themselves in the book and all learn at the same time. In our English lessons, the children will be developing their drafting and editing skills before completing a best version of their work.

SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) will be also be taught throughout English lessons. There is a huge emphasis on spelling as well as being able to understand and use the correct grammar and punctuation in Year 5 as with all other years. To support the spellings that the children will be completing at home, they will be completing activities each day across the week and building on skills throughout the year.

Spellings:

Each week the children will be bringing home a spelling list based on a specific spelling rule. It is important that the children practise their spellings at home. This will help inform their writing in English lessons and the pieces of work that they produce. Spelling tests will take place on a Thursday to help inform new spellings which will be sent out on a Friday.

Handwriting:

The children will have a handwriting lesson three times a week. They will focus on letter formations and sizing as well as joining letters and developing stamina when writing. Children who show consistent neat handwriting may also receive a pen license which they can use in their books.

Maths:

In maths we will be covering:

Place Value
Addition and Subtraction
Area
Multiplication and Division.

As with each year, lessons Will include a mixture of fluency problem solving and reasoning questions to help ensure the children get a deep understanding of each of the aspects of maths we are looking at this year.

History

This term, Year 5 will be learning about the Vikings and their impact on Britain. Children will explore who the Vikings were, where they came from, and why they travelled to and settled in Britain. We will investigate Viking longships, settlements, daily life, beliefs, and famous Viking warriors and explorers. Pupils will also discover how the Vikings influenced modern Britain through place names, language, trade, and culture. Through a range of historical sources and enquiry-based activities, children will develop their understanding of this fascinating period of history and learn how historians find out about the past.

Geography

This term, children will learn about different types of settlements, including hamlets, villages, towns and cities, and explore the differences between rural and urban areas. They will investigate how settlements and the Black Country have changed over time using maps and historical evidence.

Children will also learn about trade and transport, including the role of canals, railways, imports, exports and Fairtrade, and how these have influenced where people live and work. Alongside this, they will develop their geographical and writing skills through report and explanation writing.

Art

This term, children will explore the exciting world of typography, learning how the design and arrangement of letters can be used to communicate ideas, feelings and messages. They will investigate the work of artists and designers such as Louise Fili, Paula Scher and Grayson Perry, experimenting with creating their own letterforms and fonts. Children will develop their drawing, collage and sketchbook skills before combining typography with maps, symbols and imagery to create a personal visual map that tells a story about a place, interest or aspect of their identity. Through this project, pupils will build their creativity, design skills and confidence in expressing ideas through art.

DT

This term, children will explore mechanical systems by learning how cams can create different types of movement. They will investigate how mechanisms use an input, process and output to make things move and examine examples of moving products. Using their design and making skills, pupils will design and create a shop display with moving parts to advertise products. Throughout the project, they will develop ideas through drawings and discussion, select appropriate tools and materials, and evaluate their finished product against a design specification. Children will also learn about the work of designers and engineers and how mechanical systems are used in everyday life.

Science

This term, Year 5 will learn about forces and how they affect movement. Children will explore gravity, understanding why objects fall towards the Earth, and investigate the effects of friction, air resistance and water resistance. Through practical investigations, they will make predictions, carry out fair tests and use evidence to explain their findings. Pupils will also learn how simple mechanisms such as levers, pulleys and gears can make work easier by allowing a smaller force to have a greater effect

After half term, Year 5 will explore the properties of different materials and investigate how they can be used for specific purposes. Children will compare materials based on their hardness, transparency, conductivity and solubility, and learn how mixtures can be separated using methods such as filtering, sieving and evaporation. They will also investigate reversible and irreversible changes, exploring how some materials can be changed and recovered while others form new materials. Through practical investigations, pupils will develop their scientific enquiry skills by making predictions, carrying out tests and explaining their findings.

Music

This term, Year 5 will explore a range of musical styles and develop their performance, listening and composition skills. Children will learn about the history of sea shanties through What Shall We Do with the Drunken Sailor?, using singing, body percussion and instruments to create rhythmic performances. They will also study the gospel song Why We Sing, exploring how music can be used for worship, celebration and community. Later in the term, pupils will begin an Introduction to Songwriting, creating their own lyrics and melodies while developing confidence as young composers. Throughout the term, children will perform, compose and work collaboratively to deepen their understanding and enjoyment of music

This term we will be practising the songs ready for the Young Voices concert in January. More information on this will be sent out soon.

RE

This term, children will explore Christian beliefs about God as both holy and loving. They will study a range of biblical texts and learn how different types of writing in the Bible communicate important beliefs about God. Pupils will investigate how these beliefs influence Christian worship, including the design and use of churches and cathedrals. They will also reflect on how ideas about holiness, love, forgiveness and compassion can affect the way people live today, making links between Christian teachings and the wider world.

After half term, children will explore how different people, including **Christians, Hindus and those with non-religious worldviews**, respond to difficult experiences such as suffering, loss and bereavement. They will learn about beliefs concerning life after death,

including concepts such as **heaven, resurrection, karma and reincarnation**, and consider how these beliefs influence the way people live their lives. Pupils will examine a range of religious and artistic interpretations of the afterlife, compare different viewpoints, and reflect on whether religion can provide comfort, guidance and hope during challenging times. Through discussion and debate, children will develop and justify their own thoughtful responses to this important question.

PSHE (Jigsaw)

This term, Year 5 will explore what it means to be part of a community and how their actions can positively affect others. Children will discuss their rights and responsibilities as members of a class, school and wider society, and learn about setting personal goals and overcoming challenges. They will develop their understanding of democracy, respect, teamwork and cooperation, while reflecting on how to make positive choices and contribute to a safe, supportive learning environment.

Computing

This term, Year 5 will learn how computer systems and networks work together to share information. Children will explore how different devices communicate, investigate the input, process and output of digital systems, and consider how technology supports everyday life. They will also learn how the internet and the World Wide Web work, discovering how search engines find, select and rank information. Through practical activities, pupils will develop their skills in searching effectively online and evaluating the reliability of search results.

Other Notes

Please can you also ensure that your child brings multiple drink bottles to school with them every day along with a snack for break time.

Finally, If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me either in person or via Year5.als@annielennard.sandwell.sch.uk – I will endeavour to reply as quickly as possible within working hours.

I look forward to the year ahead.

Mr Smith and Mrs Kirk