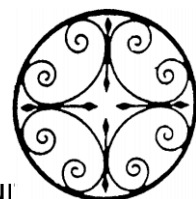


Year 5 newsletter Autumn Term 2009

We hope that you all had a lovely summer break with your children. The children all appear to be settling in to the routines of a new class and year group and are busily starting work on their new topics.

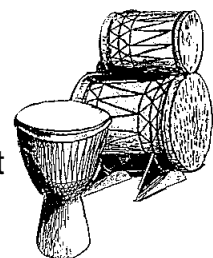
Throughout the school, we are endeavouring to make links between various subjects taught in a way that is different to what has been the case in previous year 5 classes. Our current topic keeps in mind the exciting trip to Burwell House and the activities the children will participate in whilst they are there.

This unit of work is entitled "What's our news? We're off to Burwell!" and encompasses work in Literacy (based on the new framework), Maths (based on the new framework), I.C.T., Geography (linked to our topic "Investigating Coasts"), P.S.H.C.E. and P.E. It will include activities such as learning how to write and perform scripts in preparation for recording a news article in the T.V. studio at Burwell House, looking at number facts and problems related to Burwell, researching facts about foxes using child-friendly websites, locating Burwell on a map and discussing key geographical questions related to human and physical Geography, learning about our rules and responsibilities while staying in Burwell House and how to work well as part of a team. There will, of course, be further information about the residential trip to Burwell House before we go, but please do not hesitate in coming to see us if you have any queries relating to the trip.



Also in this term, we will be combining work in D.T., Science, Music, I.C.T., P.S.H.C.E., P.E., Literacy and Maths in a topic called "How to!" where children will learn about sound and plan and make their own musical instruments.

A further exciting opportunity for the year 5 children this term is the opportunity for whole class African drumming sessions. These will be taught by Miss Moulton, whom the children got to know in year 4, with support from Mrs Cutts. We hope that the children will gain a lot from learning to play a new musical instrument.

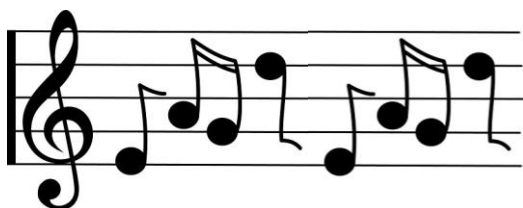


In addition to this, all year 5 pupils will have the opportunity to further their instrumental skills as a member of the school orchestra, with weekly performances in school assemblies as well as performances in the church at Christmas. Rehearsals for the school orchestra will take place on Mondays at 3pm. Pupils will also need their instruments on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for assemblies.

As well as the class teacher, year 5 will be taught by other teachers during the course of a school week. On a Friday afternoon, for P.E. and P.S.H.C.E., class 11 will be taught by Mrs Howes, and class 12 by Mrs O'Shea. Wednesday's P.E. sessions will be taught by Mrs Keller. We would like to take this opportunity to ask you to help your child to remember his/her P.E. kit on Wednesdays and Fridays, including trainers for both days in case of bad weather, and a sports sweater for the colder months. Shorts are needed for safety in indoor sessions and no jewellery should be worn. This is especially important this term as we will have a visiting tennis coach teaching on a Friday afternoon. Children will further their French oral and written skills with Mr. Hicks on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On Thursday morning Class 12 will be taught Geography by Mrs Keller.

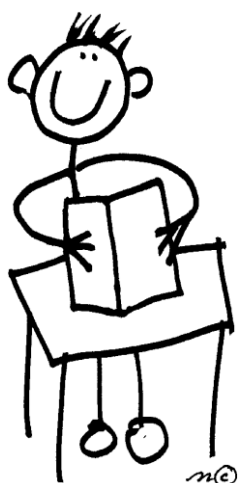
Sports clubs for year 5 children are:

Monday	Rugby	3:30 – 4:30
Tuesday	Athletics hub	3:45 – 5:00
Wednesday	Dance	3:20 – 5:00
Wednesday	Volleyball	12:45 – 1:30
Thursday	Football	3:30 – 4:30
Friday	Keep fit Fun	8:00 – 8:45



Music clubs for year 5 children are:

- Y5/6 orchestra (from October half term)
- Choir (from October half term)
- Brass group (2nd half term of each term)
- African drumming (Autumn term only)



Homework will be set on a weekly basis, generally alternating between Maths and Literacy, although other tasks may be set if they link in with our topics in class. Tasks will be handed out on a Thursday and expected back the following Tuesday, although early returns are always welcome! The very successful termly challenge homework task will also be handed out later in the term. In addition to written tasks, we also expect children to continue reading on a daily basis as part of their homework, supported by you in a way appropriate to the ability of your child; for some children this may be to hear them read and ask questions about the text whereas for others, it may be more appropriate to allow your child to read silently then ask probing questions to check a thorough understanding of what he/she has read. Your child will have an opportunity to take books home from the school library on a weekly basis, changing books on a Thursday, although we do recognise that longer books may require a longer time-scale to read.

Finally, we look forward to meeting you at the parental consultations in October to discuss how your child has settled in to a full and exciting new year group.