

# Parents Newsletter Spring 2009 Year 5



Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and welcome back to school life! We hope your break was relaxing and that you are all now ready to face a new term. Last term was as eventful as ever and we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your help and support. Without it, the events within school would not be as successful. Your help, in whatever way given, is appreciated.

The term ahead looks equally as busy as the last. We are looking forward to the residential trip to Burwell House (30<sup>th</sup> March – 1<sup>st</sup> April). More information about this to come later!



In Literacy this term we will be focusing on a range of text types, including stories from other cultures, report/explanation texts, older literature and classic/narrative poems.

In Numeracy our units of work are: counting, partitioning and calculating, understanding shape, handling data and measures, securing number facts and relationships between numbers and shapes. Some of this work will be done on laptops during I.C.T. lessons where we will use databases and spreadsheets.



This term's P.E activities are ball on the ground, gymnastics, dance and health related fitness. When learning about health related fitness, the pupils will also be studying healthy eating patterns as one of their Science topics. P.E. days continue to be Wednesdays (with Mrs O'Shea and Mrs Howes) and Fridays (with Mrs Webb). **Please ensure that your child has indoor and outdoor kits throughout the week**, including a change of footwear. Children must have shorts for indoor PE in order to access the gym equipment safely. Tracksuit trousers and a sports sweater are useful for outdoor lessons on these colder spring days!

In Music lessons this term the children will be given opportunities to perform on classroom instruments, sing, study graphic scores and perform cyclic patterns. This links in beautifully with our DT and Science lessons where the children will be making their own musical instruments (so hang on to those cardboard tubes and other Blue Peter style resources!) and studying how sounds are made.

Children have also been given the opportunity to play in the school band, led by Mrs Cutts, on Mondays. The band has already been performing in assemblies and at the harvest festival. The children will continue performing in assemblies on Tuesdays and Wednesdays this term.

Within R.E. the children will be learning about the life of the Buddha, meditation and worship. This will include asking questions about Buddhism and researching answers using a range of media.

We continue encouraging the children's well-being and self-worth in PSHCE by developing their understanding of their place and value within the community. We will also be discussing the skills needed to keep themselves and each other safe and the importance of motivating themselves in order to achieve their goals.



The children will continue learning the skills of conversation and vocabulary building in French lessons with Mr. Hicks. In addition to this, they will develop their French writing skills. Our French links are going from strength to strength. The children prepared Christmas related activities and booklets about their favourite places that we sent to our partner schools last term. We also had a very enjoyable French day where the children learnt some French dances. This term we will have a second French day with a French café. We will share some of the booklets and cards we have received from our partnership schools with the children.



We were overwhelmed by the high standard of the termly project homework and would like to thank you for your support. More project homework will be on the way soon, linked to our Geography and art textiles topics: 'An environmental issue: Water'. In the meantime, we will continue handing out Literacy/Numeracy homework Thursdays and collecting them in on Tuesdays.

Thank you once again for your continued help and support.

Yours sincerely,

Nikki Cutts and Lorraine Webb