

Year 5 newsletter Autumn Term 2011

Dear Parents/Carers,

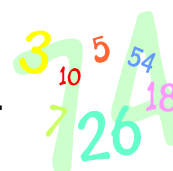
We hope that you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and note that the children have come back bright-eyed and bushy-tailed ready for the new school year!

On November the 2nd and 3rd, year 5 will be going on the much anticipated trip to Burwell House! During their stay the children will be producing a television programme and preparations for this will be starting during our upcoming literacy lessons. The children will be creating their own on recounts, interviews and playscripts to use in the studio, as well as operating the **very** technical technical equipment! Further information about our trip to Burwell will be sent out nearer the time.



Literacy – After the Burwell trip, the children will move on to develop their report writing and poetry skills. We will be encouraging the children to use accurate punctuation, interesting vocabulary and a range of sentence types. Reading is an important part of the daily routine in year 5 and pupils will have an opportunity to read and investigate texts within small groups as well as within whole class lessons across the curriculum. We would appreciate your support in helping your child to develop their reading: this might be listening to your child read aloud or asking them questions if they read independently to check their understanding. Your child will have an opportunity to take books home from the school library, changing books weekly if required.

Maths - In maths our units of work are: counting, partitioning and calculating, understanding shape, handling data and measures, securing number facts and relationships between numbers and shapes. We will spend some of the time in the initial weeks evaluating the children's current abilities with place value and their knowledge of key number facts. Your support in areas such as reinforcing times tables, telling the time etc will be greatly appreciated.



Science – Our Science topics this term are 'Earth and space' and 'changing states'. We will be exploring our solar system and investigating the changes between states of matter. The children will continue to work on their practical science skills, including observation, measuring and interpreting data.



Geography – Our Geography unit provides the basis for our topic this term – Coast to Coast – as well as focussing on geographical skills. We will be learning about the changes to coastlines over time and the effect of erosion, transportation and deposition.

Art – Building on our coast to coast topic, the children will be learning about watercolour landscape paintings, including a focus on a local artist.

PSHE – New Beginnings – we will be looking at teamwork skills, feelings and Challenges.

In addition to their regular class teachers, classes 11 and 12 will be taught R.E. by Mrs Howes and music by Miss Moulton, and Class 12 will be taught by Mrs Newton on Wednesday mornings. Monsieur Hicks will continue to teach the children French on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our fabulous teaching assistant, Mrs Sharkey, will continue to support the children in year 5 at various times during the week.

Parent helpers would be appreciated for our various trips and other activities in and around the local area - please speak to us if this is something that you could help us with. Additionally if you have any expertise in any of our topic areas we would love to hear from you!



Although we are encouraging the children to become as independent as possible, we would be grateful if you could help your child to remember his/her P.E. kit on Mondays and Thursdays (class12) and Mondays and Fridays (class 11). The children will need 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, including earrings.

Homework will continue to be handed out on a Thursday, due in the following Tuesday. Homework will generally alternate between Maths and Literacy, although other tasks may be set if they link in with our topics in class. Our termly challenge, linked to our Geography and Science topics, will be sent out later this term.

Finally, we look forward to meeting you at the parent consultations at the end of September, if not before! In the meantime if you have any concerns or queries then please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Best wishes,

Mrs Hurworth and Miss Kitson