

# Year 5 Autumn Term (1<sup>st</sup> Half) Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! I have been really pleased with the positive reaction of both parents and children! Thank you. I am sure that if the children continue to show the attitude demonstrated in these early days of term the whole class will enjoy a successful year.

The following is an overview of the subjects and activities we will be covering this half term.

In Literacy we are going to begin by looking at the novels of Michael Morpurgo. Morpurgo has written over ninety books and the children will have opportunities to enjoy some of these in class and also take them home to read. The children will be using his novels to explore how to structure their own stories and develop their use of dialogue. Later this half term we will move onto look at recounts and play scripts. Alongside these texts we will continue to develop grammar, punctuation, spelling and handwriting skills.

In Maths we will begin by looking at multiplication and division with a view to developing both written and mental strategies. We will then progress through maths problems with a 'real life' context, fractions and decimals, ratio and proportion and handling data. We will conclude this half term by practising and developing calculator skills.

In Science we will be keeping healthy! The children will be exploring the importance of eating a balanced diet and taking regular exercise. We will examine the purpose of the heart and consider how it works. This module will be concluded with a consideration of the harmful effects of smoking and drugs.

In History we will be studying Britain since 1948 looking at music, fashion, their technology and major events through the decades. As a part of the Homework I will be asking children to research the decades their families were born/ grew up in, so any information/pictures would be greatly received.

In RE we will be studying Christianity looking at Jesus using background knowledge and the Bible to get a greater understanding of 'Who was Jesus?' We will be looking at the Bible stories related to Jesus performing miracles and that he had followers. Also they will make links between beliefs and sources, including religious stories and sacred texts. We will begin to identify the impact religion has on believers' lives.

In Art the children will be producing their own still life pictures. I will be asking the children to bring in significant objects or photographs of objects that are important to them. This will help them to sketch and paint a still life picture that has meaning for their own lives and interests.

In ICT the children will learn to use an object-based graphics package to produce images and visual models. They will learn the key differences between an object-based program and a paint package and understand that visual models can be used to identify patterns and relationships. The children will be able to apply what they have learnt in this unit when drawing diagrams in science.

In Music we will be exploring the textures of rhythm, metre, melody and contrasting vocal parts. We will also learn a range of songs together as a class.

In PE the children will be learning to play cricket with Tony from Surrey County Cricket Club. PE will be on a Wednesday this school year. If the weather is fine this session will be in the playground. Can you please ensure that your child has appropriate footwear and clothing to change into for this session. Year 5 will also be swimming this term. Our first session is tomorrow (Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September).

In PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education) we will be practising empathy skills in order to recognise that people have different feelings, opinions, preferences and reactions to situations.

The first homework of the term was handed out on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September. I will set homework every Tuesday and expect the work to be returned on the following Monday. Most of the homework will need to be completed in an exercise book and it is very important that these are looked after and always returned to me. The form the homework will take will vary as to the needs of the children and content of the subjects taught.

Please do feel free to raise any questions you may have. I will usually be available between 3:30 and 3.45 if required on Monday and Tuesday.

With Best Wishes,

Bob Wade

P.S. Our first class assembly will be on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October, starting at 10:10.