

# Year 5 Newsletter



**Class teachers:** Mrs Evans/Ms Borja, Mr Perfect

**Other staff:** Mrs Andrews, Mrs Franks

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a brand new calendar year and new term in Year 5. We hope you all had a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas break and we thank you all for your kind Christmas gifts.

We will be holding a meeting for you to find out more about the residential trip in April – dates to follow shortly.

Here's to a busy, productive and enjoyable terms 3 and 4.

## **Our Day:**

10:30-10.45 – Playtime  
12:00 – Lunchtime  
(Friday assembly is at 10:00)

## **Playtimes:**

As the weather is changeable please could all children come to school with a warm/waterproof coat. Children may also bring wellies in for those especially puddle-filled days!

## **PE Days:**

This term we will be having indoor sessions for both PE lessons in term 3. We will have a unit of dance on Thursdays and gym on a Friday. It would still be useful for children to have their full indoor and outdoor PE kits in school throughout the week, just in case.

## **Equipment**

Please could you ensure that your child has the following equipment for school:

- Handwriting pen
- Pencil
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- A reading book

Each day we would like all children to bring in a named water bottle which they will keep in the classroom and they may bring fresh fruit as a break time snack.

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## **Reading**

Many children have been working hard on completing their Reading Passports; with many getting their '3 book' prize. Please continue to support them at home by encouraging them to read at least 20 minutes a day.

Don't forget that the Extreme Reading Challenge is still open....send in a picture of your child reading in a strange or unusual place!

## **Home learning**

Over the next two terms, our home learning will follow a similar format to previously, with the compulsory tasks taking place on certain weeks. These tasks will still be designed to support key skills in reading, writing and maths. We would encourage all children to have a go at some of the optional tasks as well, as these can help to support the learning (and be fun!) across the curriculum.

Also in the Home Learning book are some key maths facts that your child SHOULD know by the end of the term.

**Presentation needs to be of a high standard – blue pen, neat joined handwriting and careful drawing. Expectations should be as high for this as for class work.**

We will be starting some brand new learning topics as well as continuing some from last term. Our 'Mountain Environments' theme from last term will link in to our new study 'The Alpine Region'. In term 4, linked to our visit to Wiltshire, we shall be working on history skills of chronology and change/continuity. In Science, we will be investigating forces around us and in term 4 finding out about simple machines such as the lever, gears and pulleys.

Our focus will include key skills within the following subjects:

Reading – we will continue to practise the skills of deducing, inferring & interpreting information, events or ideas from a text (reading between the lines). We are starting with "Clockwork" by Philip Pullman – a fantastic author. Encourage your child to read about him and more of his work.

Writing – to vary and adapt sentence structure for meaning and effect and incorporate more ambitious vocabulary.

This term and beyond, we will be continuing (and increasing) our focus on spelling strategies. Many of these will encourage the children to devise their own ways of remembering tricky words – for example, the use of mnemonics such as 'big elephants cause accidents under small elephants' for 'b-e-c-a-u-s-e'. As the children learn and remember in different ways, we will be encouraging the use of phrases, pictures and rhymes as well as looking at spelling patterns, rules and families.

Maths – to know and use number facts for multiplication & division; compare and order fractions; find equivalent fractions; convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions; add and subtract fractions and multiply proper fractions by whole numbers. We shall learn how to read and write decimal numbers as fractions; read, write, order and compare numbers with up to three decimal places; recognise the per cent symbol (%), and learn the decimal, fraction and percentage equivalents.

Science – Forces & the science skills of planning, predicting, observing, recording, concluding and explaining.