

# Year 5 Newsletter



**Class teachers:** Mrs Evans/Mrs Clay, Mr Perfect

**Other staff:** Mrs Andrews, Mrs Oxenham

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had an enjoyable Easter break. Here's to a busy, productive and enjoyable term 5 and 6 – really important terms for your child which will be packed full of great learning opportunities. Every piece of work should be the best quality and best presentation.

We would like to take this opportunity to say how much we enjoyed taking your children on the residential. They behaved extremely well and we were complimented by staff at Stonehenge and Salisbury Cathedral. We hope that they too had a good time and that it was a boost for their self-esteem. Please let us know how they enjoyed it.

Over the next few weeks we shall be creating a blog about the trip that you will be able to access at home. It will have photos and recounts written by the children. We hope that you find it useful and entertaining.

## **Our Day:**

10:30-10.45 – Playtime

12:00 – Lunchtime

(Friday assembly is at 10:00)

## **PE Days:**

We will be having outdoor and indoor sessions for PE lessons each week. We will cover fielding games through cricket and gymnastics.

It would still be useful for children to have their full indoor and outdoor PE kits in school throughout the week, just in case.

We will also be running our daily mile, so please ensure children have their trainers in every day.

## **Reading**

Can we just remind you about the Reading Passports – these are designed to get your children reading a variety of authors and genres. Many have their '3 book' prize; some have gained the '6 book' prize but who will be the first to get the '9 book' prize?

Please continue to support them at home by encouraging them to read at least 20 minutes a day. Asking them questions about their

## **Equipment**

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

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

It would very useful if they could bring in a named water bottle to ensure that they keep themselves hydrated (that way they do not lose learning time having to go to the water fountain)

## **Home learning**

Our home learning will change – **there will be compulsory tasks every week** to prepare them for Year 6. 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 across the curriculum and be fun!

reading will also help them: "what do you think will happen next and why?"; "why do you think he feels like that – what clues are there?"; "what words does the author choose to make you feel \_\_\_?"

### **Buster Book Club**

Thank you for encouraging your child to read on Wednesday – our Buster Book Club results are looking great and it is noticeable that the children are finding reading for extended periods is really enjoyable.

**Please could you sign your child's book as we cannot include their minutes without your signature.**

Also in the Home Learning book are some key maths/English 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.**

### **Handwriting**

We will be working on ensuring joined up handwriting. Please could we ask you to support us in this by asking them to join for their homework tasks too.

Last term, the Art and Music event was also a big success; we hope you got the opportunity to visit our classrooms to see all the fantastic work your children have been doing. We are sure you will agree that the children have become quite accomplished on the drums. It was pleasing to see so many of the year 5 children performing either as soloists, in groups and in the choir during the evening – they really are a talented group!

We have already done some cross-curricular work in term 4 (finding out how Neolithic man could have used simple machines to build the marvel that is Stonehenge). This cross curricular work will continue.

This term, in history, we will continue to improve our understanding of chronology and continuity and change. We will consider questions such Who were the Anglo-Saxons? How 'dark' were the Dark Ages? Was Alfred really Great? How did they shape Britain as it is today? We will be developing our skills of historical enquiry, chronology and interpretation of sources through answering these questions.

In Science we will be looking at materials and their properties- looking at reversible and non-reversible changes. We will be working on skills of planning and carrying out fair tests .

In RE we will be returning to the study of Christianity and looking at the history and composition of the Bible. The children will also be finding out about the key rites of passage in the Christian church.

Our focus will include key skills within the following subjects: Reading – we will continue to practise the skills of deducing, inferring and interpreting information, events or ideas from a text (reading between the lines). We will be working on understanding why/how authors and poets choose words, layout, sentence structure for effect. In term 6 we will be studying another class book – Skellig by David Almond.

Writing – to vary and adapt sentence structure for meaning and effect and incorporate more ambitious vocabulary. The non-fiction genres we will cover are: persuasive texts, reports, discussion texts.

Maths – we will continue to practice arithmetic (the 4 operations) and the children will refine their understanding of how to choose the most efficient methods. We will reason about fractions, decimals and percentages. We will begin to look at geometry: estimate, measure and construct angles. Identify 3D shapes from 2D representations. Identify, describe and represent the position of a shape following a reflection or translation.

In May, the children will take a number of assessments. CATS (Cognitive Ability Tests) and assessments in Maths, Reading and GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling). We do recognise that some children don't like assessments – but we will do our utmost to ameliorate this. Results will be given to you at the parents' meeting in term 6.

If there is anything you want to discuss about your child's learning, please book a meeting at the office or see us on the playground after school. Here's to a great term 5 and 6!