

# Year 5 Autumn Newsletter

Welcome back to a new school year. We hope you all had a very enjoyable and relaxing holiday.

Thank you for your support in making the beginning of the school year run so smoothly and calmly. The children have settled in well and are keen and eager to learn!

## English

A major element of our English teaching this term will be on developing our skills in spelling, punctuation and grammar. Dedicated time will be given each day to ensure that these skills are embedded and transferred across all curriculum areas. Spellings will be allocated on a Monday and children will be tested on these the following Monday.

Our writing skills will be developed through a range of fiction and non-fiction stimuli. We will begin by writing non-chronological reports and persuasive holiday brochures linked to our geography work on Australia. We will then develop our creative writing skills through reading *Clockwork* by Phillip Pullman. Later in the term, we will produce diary entries and newspaper reports using visual literacy in a study of Harry Potter.

As well as reading our class texts, the children are encouraged to borrow a reading book from our library to read for pleasure independently at home and school. Please encourage your child to read for at least 10 minutes every night and make a comment in their reading record. Parents are also encouraged to comment on their child's reading in this diary.

## RE

Throughout school we follow the RE Scheme 'Come and See'. We begin our year with a topic which is all about 'Ourselves'. We will identify our own unique gifts and qualities that we possess and look at how we can share these amongst others. Our second topic focuses on the Sacrament of Marriage, we explore the idea of showing care and commitment to others. We will also spend some time studying Judaism. Our final topic of the term leads us to the season of Advent.

**A a copy of the Diocesan parents' leaflet will be sent home soon.**

## Maths

In Mathematics, the children will develop and build upon their skills from Year 4.

We have begun by consolidating and further developing our knowledge on place value. We will be moving onto improving our mental strategies and standard written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division later this term. Once confident we will apply our knowledge to challenging problem solving and reasoning style questions. Later this term we will begin our work on fractions: we will focus on comparing, ordering and finding equivalent fractions before moving onto adding, subtracting and multiplying fractions.

The children will also continue to learn their multiplication tables up to 12 x 12 and related division facts. As always children are encouraged to practice their times tables and other skills such as telling the time at home regularly. All pupils have been provided with their Times Table Rockstar log in information.



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**Daily Checklist: Water bottles, reading book, reading record.**

## Science

We will start our learning this term with our Properties and Changes of Materials topic. We will work together to combine materials to describe what we can see and what happens using scientific vocabulary. We will also investigate how different materials can be successfully separated.

## Geography & History

For the first half term we will study Australia. We will find out about the country itself; its location, geography and important features and landmarks. Later in the term we will look closely into the famous explorer Captain James Cook. We will find out about his life and key voyages. Alongside this we will also find out why people were sent to Australia and what happened once they had settled there—as you can tell we have a very busy term ahead!

## French

The children will continue to have a weekly French lesson, where they will learn more about the French language and culture.

## Computing

The children will start with an exciting unit this term on developing their coding skills. We will create a game and improve our understanding of variables to control objects.

## Art & DT

In art lessons, we will begin by using a range of materials to re-create a range of Australian landmarks. We will then study aboriginal inspired artwork and create our own aboriginal style rain sticks and artwork. Later in the term explore the structure of bridges including Sydney Harbour Bridge before producing and completing our own design.

## Music

We are very lucky to have Mr Harbisher from Tees Valley Music to teach us music this term. We will begin by improving our skills when playing the recorder.

## PE

Class 5 will have their P.E sessions each **Tuesday afternoon** with Miss Wilberforce and each **Friday morning** with Mr. Sheahan. Please make sure your child has their P.E kit on these days and that it is clearly labelled with their name.

**Thank you for your support.**

*Miss Wilberforce*

