

# Year 5 Newsletter – Autumn Term 2



Dear Parents/Carers:

We have had a great start to the year and it has been an absolute pleasure to witness so many of our school values being displayed by your children!

The following is an overview of what your child will be taught in the second half of the Autumn term, as well as general timetabling information.

In **English**, we will be reading a classic, festive text by Charles Dickens, 'A Christmas Carol'. Through reading this book as a whole class, we will be exploring themes of: poverty, society, family life, charity and Christmas. The children will be analysing what makes good character descriptions and create their very own for Ebenezer Scrooge. Additionally, the children will be learning how to devise expanded noun phrases to create effect, and understand the use of commas.

We really need your help encouraging the children in their **reading**. All children have access to Accelerated Reader and we need them to be reading every day and then completing a quiz approximately weekly (depending on the size of the book). We have daily **Destination Reader** sessions, which will involve explicitly teaching reading strategies, such as clarifying, inferring, predicting, questioning, summarising and making connections with the wider world.

Our **Maths** focus this half-term is on reading time tables, multiplication and division and completing investigations using area and perimeter. **Children will be tested on their times tables on a weekly basis.**

Our **Geography** topic will be 'Mapping the United Kingdom'. Children will be taught key skills to identify and locate key geographical features of the UK using maps and atlases. The children will be able to identify counties, cities, mountains, rivers, seas and coastlines across the UK.

In **Science**, our topic will be "Forces". The children will be investigating the following forces: gravity, air resistance, water resistance, friction, pulleys and levers. The children will be conducting scientific enquiries to answer questions and recognise variables where necessary.

In Year 5, in **French** this term, we will be learning about the past times of French kings, sports and flags and Christmas!



In **Music**, our topic for this term is 'Keeping Healthy'. Children will learn to sing in multiple parts, read melodies from staff notation and accompany songs with percussion instruments. They will also be composing and combining their own vocal melodies. The groups with THAMES have worked well so far, if you are keen in a paid tuition place for brass or strings please let Mr. Griffiths know as there could be a couple more spaces.

In **PSHE**, our topic is 'celebrating differences.' We will be learning about respecting different cultures, understanding the topic of racism and looking at different types of bullying.

In **Computing**, learners will develop their understanding of computer systems and how information is transferred between systems and devices. Learners will consider small-scale systems as well as large-scale systems. They will explain the input, output, and process aspects of a variety of different real-world systems. Learners will also take part in a collaborative online project with other class members and develop their skills in working together online.

In **Art**, we will be studying one point perspective and Victorian perspective drawing. The children will become familiar with the terms 'Horizon line,' 'Vanishing line' and 'Converging lines.'

Finally, our "big questions" in **Religious Education** this half term are: 'What can we learn from wisdom?' and 'How do art and music convey Christmas?' The children will be exploring both of these questions in detail and thinking about Christian and other faiths responses and then expression their own opinion on these answers based on what they have been learning about.

P.E. will be on **Thursday** mornings. Please ensure your child comes into school wearing the correct kit on Thursday. A reminder that children should, if possible, wear blue jumpers in class on all other days and not hoodies.

Homework will be set on a half termly basis. The activities are optional. The spellings and times tables are compulsory and will be tested on a weekly basis in class. Children should also ready daily.

We are excited to welcome Miss Bibi to our teaching team for this half term. Having an extra member of staff will really help with ensuring we meet the needs of the children as effectively as possible.

A reminder, if there is anything that you wish to talk to us about, please do let us know. We are here to help!

Best wishes,  
Mr Griffiths, Miss Budden, Miss Bibi, Lou, Rita and Natalie.

