

Year 5 Newsletter – Spring 1



Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have all had a wonderful and relaxing Christmas.

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

In **English**, we will be reading a text set in the Victorian times - 'Street Child.' We will be learning all about what life was like for Victorian children. We will be writing in role as a character, writing a non-chronological report and a persuasive letter. We will be focusing on persuasive writing techniques, as well as writing a newspaper report.

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 Multiplication, Division and Fractions. The children would really benefit from some extra work on division and fractions at home as they lack confidence in this area at the moment. Posing simple mental arithmetic questions like '8 divided by 4' to your children at home will really help the children when they have to do more challenging division work in school. Understanding some equivalent fractions ($\frac{4}{8}$ being the same as a half) would also set them in good stead. **Children will be tested on their times tables on a weekly basis.**

Our **History** topic will be the Victorians. We will learn about the life of Queen Victoria, the industrial revolution and important inventions during the Victorian era. We will also focus on the life of Victorian children, and the use of medicine to treat diseases.

In **Science**, our topic will be earth and space. We will look at the movement of the earth and the moon, and how the rotation of the earth explains day and night. We will also explore theories from different scientists, as well as supporting evidence.

In Year 5, in **French** this term, the children will be continuing to develop their understanding of the language with Yolen Col our French teacher. She will link the lessons around the topic areas we are looking at in class.



In **Music**, the children will be developing their musical vocabulary with reference to texture and dynamics. They will look at how poetry and rap can be used to tell a story and will also be creating their own performance piece.

In **Computing** we will be doing 'Physical Computing' using Crumble Kits as part of a STEM day.

In **D.T.** we will be creating a stable structure for a marble run using recycled materials so please do bring this in so that we have plenty of material to use for this activity.

In **PSHE**, our topic is dreams and goals. This includes aspirations for future careers, and how the dreams of those from other cultures may differ from our own.

Our "big questions" in **Religious Education** this half term are: 'What do Sikh's Believe?' Children will explore what Sikh's believe about God. Where Sikh's worship, the significance of the Amrit ceremony to Sikh's and key items related to Sikhism.

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.

This half term we have an exciting Dragon's Den project with HSBC. We are very keen to get involved in community and educational activities where we can bring financial world knowledge and awareness to the young generation at an early age. This competition is designed to help young students understand how a business concept works and what are the key areas to think about when developing your entrepreneurial skills. We are still looking for two more adult helpers for these sessions so if you are available to help on Friday mornings from 9-11, please get in touch.

This term, the plan is for **swimming** to recommence, (national situation permitting). **Cherry class will swim in January for the first half of term**, with Palm class going after February half term. This will happen on **Tuesday** mornings. Please ensure your child brings their swimming kit to school on this day.

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.

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, Lou, Rita and Natalie

