

Dear Parents/carers,

Mrs Butcher, Mrs Mexson, Mrs Jameson, Miss Tucker and I would like to welcome you to Class 5.

I hope you all had an enjoyable Summer break and are now ready to begin a new school year! I am personally very excited to be joining Kingsmoor and can't wait to get know all the children as well as yourselves over the course of the next year.

This letter will give you some important information about Class 5 routines (for **Year 4** and **Year 5** children) and the topics we will be covering this term.

Dropping off/collecting your child

We will open the door to the classroom at 8.50am every morning. The children are to come into the cloakroom, hang their bags/coats on their pegs, put lunchboxes on the floor below their pegs and bring their book bags into class. Once they have entered the classroom they are not allowed to come back out unless they have asked permission from an adult. **Year 5** children then take their book bag and water bottle through to my classroom after ticking their name on the class register.

At home time the children are allowed to leave the classroom as long as they can see the person who is collecting them from school. If you are happy for your child to walk to another class to meet you, please let me know. Bus children are allowed to walk to the bus where they are checked on board by a member of staff.

Topics this term

We will be learning about the 'Romans' this term. It is our hope to immerse the children in the topic through their art, history and geography lessons, with the first half term focusing on life as an ancient Roman and the second half term focusing on the life in Roman Britain.

English Year 5

As well as linking our topics to our English written work, we will be starting with a non-fiction text where by the children will be writing a guide to the life of a Roman soldier. We will also be looking at the book *Escape from Rome* by Caroline Lawrence. We will be using this text to explore character description as well as description of settings to enhance our writing.

During half term 2 we will be writing inspirational speeches using the legend of Boudicca to raise an army to fight the Romans. We will also be writing biographies of key people in the Roman invasion of Britain. As well as writing short stories based on life in Roman Britain.

English Year 4

In the first half term the children will focus on the book, 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. Initially, they will discuss and perform the poem 'The Coming of the Iron Man' by Brenda Williams. They will then create their own descriptive poem about the Iron Man. Focus: adjectives (expanded noun phrases), verbs, similes, metaphors and paragraphs (verses).

After reading and discussing the book, the children will create an imaginative Prologue (opening) to explain where the Iron Man came from. They will finish by writing a descriptive narrative to retell (sequence) the story of the Iron Man in their own words.

During the second half term the children will link their English to this term's topic of 'The Romans' by focussing on the infamous leader – Julius Caesar. They will learn the tragedy of Julius Caesar by studying and performing the play by William Shakespeare.

Using a short media cartoon 'DumSpiro', the children will then keep a diary about the daily challenges that a roman soldier faces whilst trying to deliver a message for Caesar. They will then discuss and debate the cartoon 'conflict' and write a persuasive report explaining who they think was morally right and why.

Maths Years 4 and 5

Maths sessions will follow the White Rose Maths schemes of learning. Over the course of the autumn term the children will be focusing on place value and the four operations.

As always we will be continuing to develop the children's arithmetic knowledge this will continue through TT rockstars. This will run alongside our continued push to develop children's abilities to reason and problem solve.

Science Year 5

The Science topic this half term is 'Materials and their properties'. We have already begun this week, looking at the difference between man-made and natural resources.

Next half term our Science topic is 'Forces'. The children will learn about gravity and how forces affect a moving object. Developing their understanding of how air resistance and gravity act upon different objects.

Science Year 4

The science topic this half term is 'States of Matter'. The children will focus on how materials can reversibly change between the solid, liquid and gas states, their similarities and differences and the processes involved in 'The water cycle'.

Next half term the science topic will be 'Sound'. The children will focus on how sounds are made and travel to the ear and will experiment with changing the pitch and amplitude of sounds using different objects and materials.

They will develop confidence in asking questions and conduct different types of enquiry to solve problems and draw their own conclusions.

Homework

Homework is given out in purple home learning books (please see inside the book for more details on home learning). Reading books and reading records need to be in school every day.

PE

Y4 and Y5 will have two PE sessions each week (Monday and Thursday). Having PE kit in school all week is the easiest arrangement to ensure it's there ready for lessons and clubs.

If you have any questions or queries relating to this letter or any other issue, feel free to pop in and see any of us.

Many thanks,

Mr Thompson and Miss Tucker