

Class 5 Newsletter

Autumn Term 2020

Dear Parents/carers,

Mrs Butcher, Mrs Jameson and I would like to welcome you to Class 5. I hope you all had an enjoyable Summer break (after the very unusual year we have all experienced) and are now ready to begin a new school year! This letter will give you some important information about Class 5 routines (for **Year 4** children) and the topics we will be covering this term (please **carefully** read the information leaflet that was attached to Mrs Warren's letter dated 29th August 2020, (which I have included again with this letter).

Dropping off/collecting your child

We will come and collect your child from the designated area on the drive at 9.00am 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 and water bottles into class. Once they have entered the classroom they are not allowed to come back out for health and safety reasons.

At home time (3.30pm) the children will be escorted out to meet you on the drive. If your child has a younger sibling in the school then they will can leave with them at the earlier time of 3.15pm.

Topics this term

We will be learning about 'The Egyptians' this term. If your child wishes to research this at home, I am happy for them to show/tell about it in school when they feel ready.

During this topic we will consider the difference between Egypt now and Ancient Egypt, create a timeline of key historical facts, use an atlas to find the River Nile and discover why it was so important, learn to make sourdough, papyrus, look at artefacts, learn about Howard Carter and Tutankhamun, make a toilet paper Mummy and research pyramids.

English Year 4

Each week, the children will learn new spelling words which they will be encouraged to practise in school (and at home) and use within their written work. They will also be supported to progress their phonics knowledge using phonics mats and widen their vocabularies using dictionaries and Thesaurus'.

I know Mrs Hicks was delighted with the reading progress made last year, so please could you keep up the good work by encouraging your child to read regularly (preferably on a daily basis). There are various reading incentives set up in the school, which you might find useful. These are detailed in the Homework timetable.

As well as linking our topic to our English written work, the whole school will be starting with the book 'Here We Are'. Although fictional, the book invites us to consider our future and how 'what we do' plays a big part in it. Following that we will be going on an 'Egyptian Adventure' discovering what life was like in Ancient Egypt, so that we can produce an Information Text to share with others. We will finish the half term by learning about 'The Egyptian Cinderella' comparing it to the traditional 'Cinderella' story.

Maths Years 4

We will start our daily Maths lessons reviewing 'root facts' learned in KS1 to ensure that your child is secure in all areas. The children will also be revising and learning new 'mental strategies' to allow them to solve problems more efficiently.

Main Maths Focus

During the Autumn term we will spend the first four weeks learning about Place Value, followed by three weeks of Addition and Subtraction, moving onto Measurement (Length and Perimeter) and finally Multiplication and Division. Throughout, we will be regularly challenging ourselves with related problem solving and reasoning.

Science Year 4

The Science topic this half term is 'Animals including humans'. We will start by studying the digestive system and understanding the functions of the different organs. The children will then be looking at the different types and functions of teeth, in humans and other animals. Finally, they will learn to construct and interpret food chains and understand the effects that humans are having on these delicate systems.

Next half term our Science topic is 'Sound'. The children will learn that sound is made by vibrations (passing through a solid, liquid or a gas) and understand the effect that distance has on these vibrations. They will also be encouraged to experiment changing the pitch and volume (amplitude) of sounds using musical instruments and other such objects.

Throughout each lesson the children will be learning to Work Scientifically using different types of enquiry to answer questions and solve problems.

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 and will be checked every Thursday by Mrs Butcher.

PE/Swimming

On Thursdays all Year 4 children will have Forest School, plus 2 PE sessions each week. In the Summer term they will swap Forest School for a term of Swimming (please see Mrs Warren's letter dated 4th September attached).

If you have any questions or queries relating to this letter or any other issue, feel free to call the school and arrange a telephone appointment/face to face meeting.

Finally, please rest assured that we fully understand that your child is returning to school after an extended period away. Please trust that we will get to know your child and very quickly attend to any missed learning, by setting up individualised interventions to give them every opportunity to bridge the gap between Year 3 and 4. With your continued support I am confident that we will succeed!

Many thanks,

Miss Tucker