



How to Help at Home



Support at home is **invaluable** to their progress and much appreciated.

Please encourage your child to:

- Complete homework projects and learn weekly spellings
- Read regularly and enjoy the feeling of finishing a book!
- Practise and learn weekly number facts and/or times tables.

Homework each week:

- Reading - at least 15 minutes each night . Please encourage your child to read to you and we will check your child's diary weekly. Each child needs 3 comments in their reading diary per week.
- Spellings - will be given out on Mondays and quizzed the following Monday, you will find these in the back of your diary.
- Number facts to be practised regularly, ready for our Friday quiz.

Items to have in school:

- P.E kits - On a Monday, please ensure that children have tracksuit bottoms and a warm top as well as shorts and a t-shirt for indoor lessons.
- Wellingtons, old clothes and a warm jacket will also be required for our 'Forest School' activities. Be prepared, children may get muddy! Forest School day is Friday.
- Water bottles are to be ideally named and taken home to be washed.
- Swimming kits - From the New Year, 50 will need a towel, goggles and suitable swimwear for their weekly lesson on a Thursday. School will provide children with their own swimming cap.



Dates for the Diary



Monday 13 Jan - Sensational workshop
 Tuesday 28 January - Mini Basketball at Kingsmeadow
 Monday 3 - Tuesday 4 February - Judo taster sessions.
 Wednesday 5 February - Valentine's disco.
 Thursday 6 February - Swimming Gala at Dunston Pool.
 Tuesday 11 / Wednesday 12 February—Parents' consultations
 Thursday 13 February - NO SWIMMING due to Gala at pool.
 Friday 14 February - Hoops 4 Health Basketball
 Friday 14 February—Break up

Monday 25 Feb—Back to school
 Thursday 5th March—World Book Day
 Monday 16th March—Healthy Me Workshop
 Friday 3rd April—Break Up

We regularly use Facebook, text and email to update and remind parents of events. Please ensure that the office have your current mobile and email address. Our school newsletter is emailed every Friday and contains very important information.



If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact Miss Ornsby Mrs Berry or Mrs Ion.

Curriculum Overview



Year 5



Spring Term



Welcome



We would like to wish you all a fantastic New Year and Welcome Back to Year 5!
Please read on to see the fun—filled term we have in store!
Miss Ornsby , Mrs Berry and Mrs Ion



English Overview



Writing : We begin the New Year with a focus on the cultural traditions of China and how they are presented in stories. The children will write an epilogue to the 'Dragon Slayer' tale, in which they will create their own villain for the brave Mai-Ling to defeat. A focus on dragons will allow us to create our own non-chronological reports, in which the various species, their unique colourings and their different habitats will be organised. Following this, we will become newspaper reporters, using our non-fiction skills to help us with some reporting. After half term we will use the video stimulus 'The Catch' to write a story opener and focus on selecting appropriate vocabulary to enhance the meaning of our narratives.

Reading : We will continue to develop our skills in prediction, deduction, inferencing and will focus on providing reasoned justifications for our views.

Spelling and Grammar : We will build on prior knowledge of a range of grammatical devices such as relative clauses, apostrophes, and expanded noun phrases, and focus on including these and more in our writing. Spelling lessons will be supported by learning a range of 'spelling rules' which will assist in correct word formation.



Maths Overview



In Maths, Spring term will begin with applying our knowledge of the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) to area and perimeter, including lots of real-life contexts and composite rectilinear shapes. From there, we will turn our attention to fractions: finding equivalent fractions; comparing and ordering fractions; represent fractions in a variety of different ways; converting mixed number fractions into improper fractions and vice versa; adding and subtraction fractions; before finally multiplying proper fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers. Our knowledge of fractions is certainly going to grow during this term. To support this fraction focus, the children's knowledge of their times tables will continue to be extremely important and so weekly practise is highly beneficial. Our mastery approach continues to mean that the children work through fluency, reasoning and problem solving questions for each unit of work, deepening their understanding and confidence to apply their mathematical skills in different ways.



Science Overview



This term, in Science, we will be kicking 2019 off with a new topic: Materials. We will be exploring how to group materials by their properties, at states of matter (solids, liquids and gases), reversible and irreversible changes, dissolving, evaporation, filtering and also how some changes can produce new materials altogether. After this topic, our attention will turn to 'Living things.' This topic will allow the children to use our environmental area to see amphibian life cycles in action, along with learning about the life cycles of humans, birds, insects, plants and mammals. We will also cover habitats and why they suit certain animals more than others.



Our Curriculum



RE: This term, we will study the religion of Islam. Here the children will be looking at the Five Pillars of Islam, the teachings of the religion such as the importance of Qur'an and their belief in one true God.

History /Geography : Our new history topic of 'Raiders and Invaders' has already captured the attention of the children. Focussing on the Vikings, we will consider why they came to Britain and why they have left such a mighty legacy in history. An enquiry based approach to History will see the children presenting their ideas with evidence and interpreting sources. After half term, we will return to our Geography studies as we investigate the vast country of Russia.

Through these studies, we will learn about Russia's many time zones, biomes and how this informs us of its size. We will also look at its rivers, using terminology such as transportation, tributary and meander.

Art / DT: In Spring 1, our art topic is closely linked to our English focus on China. Chinese art and culture will dominate, as the children develop their confidence in drawing from observation, by creating and drawing their own Chinese-inspired dragons and interpreting Chinese artefacts. In Spring 2, our Design Technology topic will be linked to the infamous Terracotta Warriors in which we will design and create our own version of out clay.

Computing: This term, we are continuing to focus on our basic IT skills, which will support us in future Computing sessions. This will include skills such as: typing, copying and pasting, formatting text and editing.

PE: We have started the year recapping our basketball skills, such as passing, dribbling and shooting and will then have the fantastic opportunity to work with members of the Newcastle Eagles, who are coming into school to train the children in basketball skills, enhancing their previous knowledge. We know that the children will enjoy this greatly. While 50 will take part in weekly swimming lessons, 5B will test their fitness and endurance skills, by taking part in activities such as circuits.

Forest School: A polite reminder that children must have wellies in school every week, especially in the colder and wetter months. This term the children will be working hard alongside Mrs Cox and Mrs Ion, every Friday afternoon, exploring our History topic further. The children will get the chance to make and taste Viking delicacies as well as building forts and constructing armour and long ships.



Creative Homework



We will be continuing our fantastic Creative Homework journey and look forward to seeing the creativity and imagination of all of the children. We were blown away by the homework we saw last term! Creative Homework allows children to work alongside family members at home and a chance to show off their imagination and ideas. Children must achieve a minimum of 15 points every half term and regular progress checks will take place to inform children if they are on target to achieve the expected points. The specific progress check points can be found at the bottom of the homework grid, each half term. Two to three lunchtime sessions per half term are also available in school to help children achieve their points.



Out and About



We are lucky enough have such a wonderful, cultural area on our doorstep which is China Town. We will be looking to organise a local visit to explore the Chinese culture that links with our English and Art/DT topics. Further visits to be confirmed.