

YEAR 5 NEWSLETTER: AUTUMN 2 2019

Welcome back to the second Autumn half term. Before we know it, Christmas will be upon us!

WATER BOTTLES

The children in Year 5 are encouraged to drink regularly throughout the day. Having a clearly labelled water bottle which they can keep in school really helps. We ask the children to keep these on their tables and to fill them up at playtimes and lunchtimes. Just water please – no juice!

PE KIT

Our regular PE days this half term are now **Wednesdays and Thursdays**. Please can the children have their full PE kits in school on these days: black shorts or track suit bottoms, a white t-shirt and trainers / PE pumps. Our PE this half term will be badminton (taught by Rich Mills on a Wednesday afternoon) and dance (with an Egyptian theme!) on Thursday.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

The children are doing amazingly well with their p-buzzes. These are new this year and are a great precursor to learning the cornet. The children will be bringing their cornets home around Christmas time. A letter will be coming home shortly for you to sign so that the children can bring their cornets home. A long way off but we will be doing an end of year performance for parents to showcase all we have done.

HOMEWORK AND SPELLINGS

We have been really impressed with the standard of homework so far this year! Homework will be set **every Wednesday**. We expect homework to be returned **by the Wednesday** of the following week. Rewards will be given for children who complete their homework on time! We would encourage the children to do their homework weekly – it should only ever take them 20 – 30 minutes and will always be related to something we have been covering in class. Spellings are given out every **Monday**. We will be practising them in class during the week and then testing the children on the spelling pattern on Friday mornings.

TOPICS

Our topics this year look like this:

AUTUMN 1	STARGAZER – Earth in space
AUTUMN 2	PHAROAHS – Ancient Egypt
SPRING 1	OFF WITH HER HEAD – The Tudors
SPRING 2	SCREAM MACHINE – Fairground rides
SUMMER 1	THE ALLOTMENT – Life Cycles
SUMMER 2	TIME TRAVELLER – Life Cycles (human)

If any parents / carers feel they have an expertise or something to offer with our topics, please let me know. We like having visitors!

REWARD SYSTEM

In Year 5 we always have a star of the day – someone who has shone that day, overcome a challenge, shown kindness or team spirit, produced an outstanding piece of work. A star of the week will also be announced every week in Friday's celebration assembly.

Our Meersbrook Bank values are: **Responsibility, Resilience, Reflectiveness, Resourcefulness, Relationships and Respect**. We are always on the look-out for children showing these values!

PARENTS' MATHS GROUP

The Y5 Parents' Maths group is now up and running. Some parents have suggested that it would be useful to have ideas / methods of how we teach the various elements of Maths at school so that they are able to reinforce this at home and talk about the children's learning with them. I will aim to regularly post planning and resources on the group and updates of the learning we are doing in class. Please contact me if you would like to be added to the group:

Tierney-kc@meersbrookbank.sheffield.sch.uk

CLASS TEXTS

We have loved studying "Wonder" as our whole class text this half term. Our book for next half term is *Emma Carroll's "Secrets Of A Sun King"*. For an extra bit of homework, lots of the children have asked if they could take "Wonder" home with them to finish over the holidays. Please return copies to school as soon as they are finished!

TWITTER

If you can, please follow us on Twitter as I try to put messages, updates and photos on there. We have a class page, a whole school page and a sports page now!

DATES FOR DIARIES:

Monday 4th November – INSET DAY School closed to pupils

Monday 11th November – Y5/6 Athletics competition at Mercia. Children involved have had a letter.

Wednesday 13th November – History Van in school all day

w/b Monday 25th November – Alan Payne in school for Poetry Week

Please come in and talk to me if you have any worries / concerns / suggestions. After school is often better than before in terms of time.

Clare Tierney