



Year 5 Newsletter

Date: 4th November 2015

Teachers: Mr Williams and Mrs Clegg

Issue: 2

Hello again everyone. We'd like to start off with a few thank you's. Firstly, to any parents, grandparents, guardians or friends who were able to join us for our Peasants, Princes and Pestilence Express event just before half term. It was great to see so many of you there to share in the children's learning. It gave them a valuable opportunity to present their work and the activities they had devised in their groups.

Thank you also to those parents who supported their child in creating and designing models and diagrams or researching information over the half term break. They look wonderful around our classrooms and have really sparked off the interest in our new Cornerstones topic: Stargazers. This half term we will be taking a tour of our solar system to learn all about the planets and the many facts and mysteries they hold. Our interest in this topic began before half term with our English unit on Mnemonics, to learn the order of the planets, and we will continue to extend our knowledge of objects such as craters through engaging experiments. Also in Science, we aim to investigate temperatures and the force of gravity. Our Art and Design Technology work looks closely at the Moon. Through Geography and History there are many ways to look at the Earth now and how famous faces such as Sir Isaac Newton saw the world back in their time. We also want to take a look at a wide range of video clips and even famous songs linked to space, to delve deeper into their meanings. Last year, through an activity afternoon at Outwood, we received a telescope, which we hope to use in this topic, so look out for an event that we hope to hold very soon....more details to follow!

Thank you for supporting the home learning tasks we have sent out so far. These will continue this half term and really help to support your child's reading, spelling and writing. We have already covered maths units on multiplication and solving time problems, so activities like practising times tables or telling the time on a combination of analogue and 12 and 24 - hour digital clocks are also very beneficial. <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> is a useful website for times table practise and there is also an app available.

Our weekly swimming lessons at the Leisure Centre are in full flow now and due to a change in the curriculum, there are a greater number of certificates that your child can achieve. The swimming programme only lasts until a few weeks after Christmas, so we really hope as many children as possible can achieve their Deep Water Confidence certificates as possible. We also want to remind you that your child will now need their P.E. kit on a Tuesday. Please include suitable kit and footwear for lessons that can be taught indoors and outdoors, if the weather is still unseasonably mild.

As always, if you have any questions, queries or concerns, please speak to us on a morning, or call in after school and we will answer them for you. The Parents Evening on Thursday 10th November is also an ideal opportunity to talk about your child's progress. Please call in to book an appointment if you haven't yet done so.

Many thanks for your support,

Mr Williams and Mrs Clegg