

## Langtree Community School and Nursery Unit

January 2018

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas break. I'm sure that the children are **thrilled** to be back for this very busy term.

This letter is designed to give you information on the topics being studied by your child this term. If you would like to discuss the topics in more detail please feel free to call in for a chat.

### **English:**

Year 5 will develop their writing skills to tell a story about dragons. To engage the reader, they will use a variety of noun phrases and adverbial phrases.

They will also look at a range of poetic styles, examining the impact each form has on the reader and how this is achieved.

Year 5 children will explore a range of explanatory texts. They will then create their own texts, using adverbials, expanded noun phrases and a passive voice to engage the reader.

***Homework ideas: Reading for 20 minutes each day, and discussing the text, is very important. Practising writing, using a variety of punctuation (see glossary) will also be helpful.***

***Regularly, practise the spelling lists given out in class and use the websites listed in the homework book.***

### **Mathematics:**

Year 5 children will multiply and divide whole numbers (and some decimals) by 10, 100 and 1000, often using mental methods. They will calculate the difference between positive and negative numbers and develop skills in using fractions, decimals and percentage.

Year 5 will find factors of a whole number, look for common factors and find the prime factors of a given number. Year 5 will develop written methods of using multiplication, division, subtraction and addition to solve word problems.

Year 5 will investigate the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and will be encouraged to use the correct vocabulary when describing them.

***Please try to encourage your child to practise multiplication tables.***

***It would also be really useful to spend 10 minutes, each day, to practise an efficient method of solving multiplication, division, addition and subtraction.***

*Other ideas for useful homework are included in your child's homework book. Help with baking, shopping and solving problems involving money, time and measurement are really useful.*

**Science:**

This term our topic will be Earth and space. We will examine the Earth, Sun and moon, discussing how day and night and seasons occur. Year 5 will research to discover more about phases of the moon, eclipses, stars and planets of the solar system.

*Use the internet, or another source, to discover more about Earth and space. Be ready to share some of your interesting facts with the rest of the class.*

**History:**

Our History work this term will be based on the legacy of Ancient Greece. We will look at how Ancient Greece has influenced modern day culture. We will examine democracy, Greek myths, Olympics, theatre and architecture.

*Try to do some research to discover more about Ancient Greece. Which Greek myths do you know? What has the ancient civilisation taught us?*

**Computing:**

This term, Year 5 children will be studying Shape and Weather. The children will use a range of tools, including Logo and digital cameras, to collect and present information. Year 5 will use logical thinking, imagination and creativity to extend a program. They will also choose an appropriate tool to collect and record data.

*Some of the programs, used in school, will be available for you to download and use at home, if you wish to do so.*

**PE:**

This term Year 5 will be developing skills in invasion games, with a focus on hockey and tag rugby. We aim to use the playing field, when possible. Please supply your child with kit, and shoes, that you are happy to get muddy and wet.

*Try to be active for 1 hour each day. See your child's homework book for a website with more useful information.*

**RE:**

This term, the focus for RE will continue to be a study of world religions - paying particular attention to festivals, beliefs and places of worship.

*There is a useful website on BBC Schools with plenty of information on world religions.*

*<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/>*

**Homework:**

This will continue to be handed out on Friday and will usually be used to support work that has taken place during the week's English or Mathematics lessons.

As always, the homework book contains plenty of ideas for **'useful'** homework that **'help children learn'**.

If you do have any questions to ask me about how you can help your child during this term's work, please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Nigel Smale*