



Class Newsletter – Year 5 – Autumn 2018



English

During the first term we will read and explore the following key text:

- ✓ Floodland by Marcus Sedgwick

In English we will be learning:

- ✓ To use dictionaries and thesauruses to edit and improve our written vocabulary and explore new words.
- ✓ To use expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely.
- ✓ To use modal verbs and adverbs to show possibility.
- ✓ How to form relative clauses through the use of relative pronouns e.g. who and whose.
- ✓ To identify and discuss common themes within novels.
- ✓ To read books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes.

Key English Skills to Practise & Learn

Practising the following key skills at home will help your child greatly:

- ✓ Model and encourage the use of a dictionary to find the meaning of words that your child is unsure of.
- ✓ Support children in using a thesaurus to make adventurous word choices.
- ✓ Encourage children to read at home and discuss their opinions about a text. Reading at home is crucial in helping children develop their skills in both reading and writing (children get ideas for vocabulary and sentence structure from the texts that they read).
- ✓ Support children's skills of reading by listening to them read aloud at least three times per week.

Mathematics

In Mathematics we will be learning to:

- ✓ Understand the value of digits in whole numbers up to 1,000,000.
- ✓ Add and subtract numbers using formal written methods (column addition and subtraction).
- ✓ Approximate the answer to a question by rounding.
- ✓ Use inverse operations to check final answers.
- ✓ Understand how digits move when they are multiplied or divided by 10, 100 and 1000 (including decimal numbers).
- ✓ To multiply and divide numbers mentally.

Key Maths Skills to Practise & Learn

Practising the following key skills at home will help your child greatly:

- ✓ Practise any times tables that your child cannot confidently recall in random order (please note that the national curriculum for Year 5 is based on the assumption that children are confident in their recall of multiplication facts up to 12 x 12).
- ✓ Practise weekly Fact Families given in their planners.
- ✓ Use opportunities to practise real life maths. E.g. telling the time, reading bus time tables, measuring out ingredients for a recipe.

Science

Our science topic this term is: 'Properties of Materials'.

During this we will be learning:

- ✓ To compare the properties of everyday materials, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal), and response to magnets.
- ✓ How some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution, and how to recover a substance from a solution.
- ✓ How mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating.

Science Facts to Learn

Help your child to explore and learn the following facts:

- ✓ The boiling point of water is 100°C and water freezes at 0°C.
- ✓ http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/ages9_10/changingstate.shtml is an activity to support work on 'Changing State'.
- ✓ Where materials can be converted back to their original form e.g. melting and solidifying, this is called a reversible change.

Topic

Our topic for this term is 'Water, Water Everywhere'.

During these sessions we will be learning to:

- ✓ Use a map (including its key) to identify rivers, seas and oceans.
- ✓ Use technical vocabulary to describe the different aspects of The Water Cycle.
- ✓ Describe the different parts of a river using the correct terminology.
- ✓ Use geographical vocabulary to describe coastal changes.
- ✓ Understand how natural resources (water) can be used.
- ✓ Use persuasive techniques to discuss an environmental issue (renewable sources of energy).

Thinking About Our Topics

The following ideas will help your child explore our topic in greater depth:

- ✓ Look at maps and atlases together to identify different seas, oceans and rivers. Discuss which continents seas and oceans surround and countries that rivers run through.
- ✓ Find out about different rivers and their location e.g. The River Nile.
- ✓ <http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/riversevern/> is a website with lots of information about The River Severn.
- ✓ Discuss the different things that water is used for at home and how water could be saved.
- ✓ Discuss water-related news e.g. droughts or flooding. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround> is a news website aimed at children.

Art / Design & Technology

Art sessions this term will focus on watercolour paint.

During these sessions we will be learning to:

- ✓ Increase our awareness of different kinds of art.
- ✓ Develop understanding of different art equipment and how to experiment with water colour techniques.

D & T this term we will be researching electronic device cases and sleeves.

During these sessions we will be learning how:

- ✓ Seams are joined and how they fasten.
- ✓ To design our own case for an iPad, tablet or phone.
- ✓ To sew using a running stitch and a backstitch.

Computing

Our first unit will focus on 'Online Safety'.

During these sessions we will be learning:

- ✓ How to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly.
- ✓ To recognise acceptable and unacceptable behaviour online.

Our second unit will focus on 'Programming'.

During these sessions we will be learning to:

- ✓ Plan, debug and test algorithms and programs.
- ✓ Understand how to apply looping and repeats.
- ✓ Group commands to create procedures or sub-routines.
- ✓ Create a program to control on screen mimics and physical devices.

Physical Education (PE)

Please make sure your child has their kit in school at all times. PE sessions this term will focus on invasion games e.g hockey and netball.

During these sessions we will be learning to:

- ✓ Apply basic principles suitable for attacking and defending.
- ✓ Communicate and collaborate with one another during team games.
- ✓ Evaluate and recognise successful strategies.
- ✓ Understand the importance of fitness and how to warm up and cool down correctly.

Religious Education (RE)

Our RE questions this term will be:

- Why do some people believe God exists?
- If God is everywhere why go to a place of worship?

During these sessions we will be exploring:

- ✓ Different reasons why some people believe in God, why some people do not and why some people cannot decide.
- ✓ Which places are sacred and why?
- ✓ What makes some places sacred?

R.E will be taught by Miss Britton on a Thursday afternoon.