

**Year 5**  
**Information Letter**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to wish you all a very warm welcome to Year 5 at the start of another exciting school year! The aim of this letter is to give you key information about events and expectations of Year 5. The attached Topic Web will also provide further information about the learning that is planned in the first term.

**Staff Team**

In Year 5 we work as a team, with all children in the year group having the same experiences. Here is an outline of the staff who will be working alongside your children this year:

	<b>5B</b>	<b>5S</b>
<b>Class Teachers</b>	Mr Buchanan	Mrs Sandford
<b>PPA Cover Teachers (alternate Mondays)</b>	Miss Noble Mrs Samuels	
<b>T.A.s</b>	Mrs Saunders	
<b>Individual Needs Assistants (INA)</b>		Mr Smith Miss Robertson

All Year 5 classes have a Music lesson with Mrs Lelean (HLTA) which will resume in the new year. Mrs Persaud, Mrs Johnson and Mrs Townsend are S.E.N. T.A.s who work with small groups of children carrying out intervention programmes of work.

**Aims and Expectations**

The aim of this year is for all children to work hard, challenge themselves and, most importantly, enjoy their learning. We encourage children to be increasingly independent, taking responsibility for their learning both in and out of school, recognising areas they need to focus on in order to progress, and showing resilience and inquisitiveness.

**Topics**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Topic Title</b>	<b>Key Text</b>
Autumn	<b>Pre-historic Britain</b> - The history of early humans during the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age	<i>Wolf Brother</i> by Michelle Paver
Spring	<b>Africa</b> - the geography, cultures, history and wildlife of various African countries	<i>The Village that Vanished</i> by Ann Grifalkoni <i>Journey to Jo'burg</i> by Beverley Naidoo
Summer	<b>Ancient Greece</b> - the history, culture and legacy of the Ancient Greeks	<i>The Adventures of Odysseus</i> by Hugh Lupton and Daniel Morden

## School Trips

We also take every opportunity to extend the curriculum outside the school walls by organising a week-long residential trip on the Isle of Wight and by making the most of all the other learning opportunities which our wonderful city has to offer. Here are some exciting trips and events that the children have to look forward to:

- Isle of Wight week long residential trip
- Prehistory day (in school)
- Cinema trip to see Early Man
- Animal Encounters experience in school - and opportunity to see, handle a variety of exotic creatures from Africa and other parts of the world
- Malaria Day (in school)
- Africa Day (in school)
- Charity Walk to raise money for an African cause
- Ancient Greek Day, (in school) including feast and Olympics

## Reading

Reading is so vital and we try to inspire all children to develop a lifelong love of reading. Each week we aim to have at least one Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) session, during which the whole class reads silently, and one guided reading carousel of activities for which the children are grouped roughly according to reading ability.

We also read aloud to the whole class whenever possible, and often will engage in class discussions about the texts we are reading. We encourage children to read as much as possible - a minimum of an hour a week, and every day if possible - recording what they have read in their Reading Record in school.

## Maths

Our aim is for each child as far as possible to have a secure knowledge of their times tables. **By now all children are expected to know all of their tables up to 12 x 12.** We of course understand that there may be some children who find this difficult. **The best way to help your child with maths is to encourage them, to practice times tables as much as possible.**

We will be continuing to use Times Tables Rock Stars, a programme that encourages all to improve their times tables skills. Your child will be given a login so that he / she can access the website from home. We will set times tables revision homework revision most weeks, which will be followed by a short test.

We will continue to teach and practise written methods in class. It is important the children get used to showing their working out wherever possible so please do encourage this when your children are completing any maths homework.

## **PE**

We usually have two timetabled PE session per week, one inside and one outdoors (weather permitting), but PE can happen on any day so please make sure your child has a **labelled PE kit in school every day**, along with trainers and warm, waterproof layers for when we head into the colder months. We aim to get outside as much as we can.

## **Homework**

In year 5, we usually set **one task per week - either Maths or English, or a task relating to our current topic**. We would expect this to take about an hour. If your child is finding a task too difficult, please let us know. We usually set homework on Thursdays each week, and collect it in the following Tuesday. Please encourage your child to take responsibility for this, making sure that it is completed and handed in on time.

In addition, there will be **weekly times tables revision and spellings**, and we would also ask you to encourage your child to read as much as possible. Occasionally, we may set an extended task involving more preparation and research.

## **Star of the Week**

Every week, a Star of the Week is chosen for the following week. Children give a talk to the rest of the class on any topic they choose - such as something in which they are particularly interested, a family holiday, their family in general, or even a quiz. They can bring in objects or a prepared PowerPoint. We have also agreed with our classes that each Star of the Week may bring in a cake or biscuits for the rest of the class and their teachers to enjoy (no nuts please!)

## **Contact Details**

Mrs Sandford - [bryonysandford@st-andrews.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:bryonysandford@st-andrews.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

Mr Buchanan - [danielbuchanan@st-andrews.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:danielbuchanan@st-andrews.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

We hope your children will have a fantastic time in Year 5 and that this letter provides you with all the information you need.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any additional queries.

The Year 5 Team