

Welcome back!

In Maths this half term, Year 5 will be looking at negative numbers including temperature scales, before moving onto multiplying fractions and finding fractions of amounts. Year 6 will be working through a revision programme of topics from across the Key Stage 2 maths curriculum.

This half term our English lessons will be focused on writing a persuasive text to encourage people to take a holiday in a Space Hotel! The children will look at examples of persuasive writing techniques and language designed to appeal to a wide range of people. They will also come up with offers and deals as well as considering layout and format.

In Geography children will consider local issues and, in groups, choose one to research further. They will decide on what data to collect, plan a route for fieldwork, and collect, analyse and presenting the data, with some conclusions.

Art and DT will be covered in project days later in the term. These will include Bridge Construction for Year 5, textiles and cooking and nutrition for Year 6 and Sculptures for both Year 5 and 6.

In Science, Year 5 will be considering unbalanced forces, investigating gravity, friction and water resistance and their effects. Year 6 will continue to study circulation and health in animals exploring the heart and circulatory system through models and enquiries and considering how lifestyle choices affect our health.

We will also be doing:

- RE - continuing to ask, '*Why is there suffering?*' and exploring alternative ideas
- PE - building on previous learning in Gymnastics and developing batting and fielding skills in Kwik Cricket
- PSHE - considering safety within relationships in online communities, gaming and with other forms of technology
- Computing - finishing off our work on databases before moving into 3D designing
- French - studying French verbs and using this knowledge to make a short presentation about a week in the life of a character
- Music - experiencing music from South Africa, including traditional songs in different languages and singing a *cappella*

Core Texts

The core text we will be reading this half term is: '*Sky Song*' by Abi Elphinstone.

Homework

We will be setting homework this half term in line with the homework policy:

- Maths and English homework are set every Thursday and is due in the following Tuesday.
- Children are expected to read a minimum of five times per week and this is to be recorded in their planners (Year 6) or reading records (Year 5).
- Children should access TT Rock Stars for a minimum of 10 minutes daily. It is important that all children can recall their times table and division facts **randomly** and **at speed**.
- Throughout the year, additional spelling, punctuation and grammar homework may also be set to support the learning taking place at school.

Important information

Don't forget that every day the children need: a re-fillable water bottle, book bag to hold their reading record, spelling book and reading book and their lunch box (if they are not having school dinners). If you are able to, please provide children with a small pencil case to include a couple of pencils, a rubber (eraser), a pencil sharpener, a glue stick, a pair of child-friendly scissors, a selection of coloured pencils and a whiteboard pen.

PE Days

Please send your child to school wearing their PE kit (they do not need to bring their uniform to change back into). Long hair should be tied up and no jewellery should be worn, including earrings. Recently pierced ears (where earrings cannot be removed) will need to be covered.

As a reminder our PE kit is:

- Plain black shorts
- Royal blue polo shirt (with or without school logo)
- Royal blue hoodie (with or without school logo)
- Black tracksuit bottoms (colder weather)
- Trainers (not plimsolls)

We will have PE on the following days

Dolphins - Tuesday and Thursday

Sharks - Tuesday and Thursday

Stingrays - Wednesday and Friday

The teachers in our phase are:

Mrs Rochelle Stankowski - Dolphins Class teacher

Miss Claire Pollendine - Sharks Class teacher, Phase Leader

Mrs Gemma Lockley - Stingrays Class teacher

The adults supporting in our phase are:

Miss Sue Powell HLTA

Mrs Alison Cowling

Mrs Claire Brown

Mrs Lucy Donald