

November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to Class 5! I hope you have all had a lovely October half term and are ready for the new half term.

Our topic for this half term is 'What Makes the Earth Angry?'

This is a Geography led topic, based around events that happen around the world and we will be investigating natural disasters such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis and tornadoes and why they occur and the impact they can have upon both humans and the earth. We will also be investigating specific events such as the 2011 Japanese tsunami and the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 1994.

English

Pupils will be studying different elements of *GPS* (grammar, punctuation and spelling). This will help to raise the level of their writing. The children will be developing their comprehension skills of reading for information during guided reading. They also have access to a wide range of non-fiction books from our class reading corner for quiet reading and independent topic research.

Children will develop their use of dictionaries and thesauruses to help extend their vocabulary.

English Fiction

Our key text this half term are 'The Firework Makers Daughter' by Phillip Pullman. We will be writing a description of the firework makers workshop using figurative language and words for effect. We will also be focusing on letter writing and writing in role as one of the characters from the text.

Non-Fiction

We will be writing a non-chronological report about the angry Earth, focusing on the use of paragraphs, sub-headings, questions and technical vocabulary.

Learning Behaviours

All children at our school have a right to learn and reach their full potential. To encourage our children to continue developing the right attitude towards learning there are systems in place including rewards and sanctions. We always aim to focus on praising the positive behaviour demonstrated. Our dojo system is an effective method of promoting positive behaviour. We reward children who have behaved well all week and tried their best with golden time on a Friday afternoon. School cinema treats happen every term for those children who receive at least 65% positive dojos.

Mathematics

This term our focus in Mathematics will be addition and subtraction. We will also be learning about graphs and the representation of number through graphs. We will also be learning about length and perimeter. There is a lot of work in these areas of maths and many of the skills learnt in previous years will feed into them. We will have an emphasis on the learning of times tables. It would be beneficial if you could spend some time with your child practising times tables facts. There are lots of good web-sites you can use at home to support your child's learning in this area including 'push the button' which is a fun quick-fire multiplication game. Each week children will have opportunity to develop their number fluency, reasoning and problem solving.

Scientific and technological understanding

Children will be studying a topic called 'Rocks' which links to our topic of 'What Makes the Earth Angry?'. This unit of work looks at the different types of rocks (sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic), we will then be grouping the rocks based on their properties including their buoyancy. We will then explore fossils which we will explore in the context of planetology. We shall also investigate soils and how soil is made out of rocks and organic matter.

History and Geography

These subjects are all tied into our topic. Children will be looking at what causes volcanic eruptions and earthquakes. We will also be learning about the human and physical impact these events can have on the Earth.

Art and Design

Again linked to our topic, children will look at volcanic art and we will be creating images of volcanoes through the medium of paint, charcoal and collage. We will also be making a model of a volcano.

PSHE

Our Jigsaw topic this half term is 'Celebrating Difference'.

Religious Education

To link with the PSHE Jigsaw programme, we will be following the 'Discovery R.E.' scheme. Each year group will study Christianity and another World Faith throughout the year.

Year 3 will study Christianity and our learning challenge is 'Has Christmas lost its true meaning?' We will be investigating the true meaning of Christmas to Christians and comparing this to what Christmas means to non-Christians.

Visits

We are aiming to arrange a visit connected with our topic. As soon as this has been arranged we will let you know.

Miss Cooke, Mr. Harrison and Miss Baldwin

*** Reminders ***

PE kits

Each week your child will participate in PE sessions. Our focus this half term is dance. Children need to bring PE kits to school on Monday, in preparation for their lesson on [Tuesday](#). We also ask that PE kits remain in school until Friday and that they are then taken home over the weekend.

The correct PE kit of white t-shirt and black shorts is expected along with appropriate footwear. Please be aware that children wearing earrings, or other jewellery, will not be permitted to take part in PE. If your child has his, or her, ears pierced, please make sure earrings are removed for school or that tape/plasters are provided to cover the piercings during the PE lesson.

All children must have appropriate PE kit and should not wear any jewellery including

School times

The upper school doors open at 8:55am and close at 9am. The bell rings at 8:55 when the teachers meet the children in the playground. The children begin the day with morning activities that give them the opportunity to consolidate their learning in all areas of the curriculum.

The end of the school is 3:15pm. Gates are opened at approximately 3:10pm.

Morning session: 9am-12.15pm

Homework

Homework is given out to all children on a Friday and will need to be handed in by the following Wednesday. Creative homework linked to our topic will be set each half term and a further letter explaining this homework will be sent out separately.

Please can your child also read at home at least three times a week and make sure they bring their reading record and reading book to school each day as they are checked on a daily basis.

Spellings will also be given out on Friday for your child to learn ready for a dictation test on the following Thursday.

School Contact Details

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Deputy Head teacher: Mr T. Purdy
Class teacher: Miss K. Cooke



**Class 5
Curriculum Newsletter**

Autumn Term Two

2019

'What Makes the Earth Angry?'



If you need to have a word with your child's teacher please arrange an appointment after school when they will be happy to discuss your questions or concerns.