

Year 5 Autumn Term!

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to Year 5 and the new school year! We are all looking forward to the year ahead. We have such a fun filled year planned with some very exciting topics ranging from Peace and Conflict, Space and the Amazon Rainforest. This term our topic is **'Peace and Conflict' (periods of history spanning 1000 years focusing on the Normans, Tudors and WWII)**. This will begin on Wednesday 13th September with our Tudor Day which will be a whole day of fun filled workshops and drama, upon which we will base much of our learning across all subjects. This letter outlines the areas we will be studying up to Christmas.

Do get in touch with me if you have any questions or feel you have important information you wish to share. Please use the Year 5 email (below) to communicate with us. In order for this to be an effective way of communicating with you, **would you please send me an email, from the address you wish me to use, so that I am able to contact you when needed. Please include your child's name in the subject line so I know who you are, and I can add you to my address book.**

Please be aware that important information that is relevant for same-day things, e.g. dentist/doctor appointments / pick-up arrangements / details about equipment etc, should be notified to the office, as the class email address may not be checked during that working day. I will try to respond to emails as soon as possible, and within 48 hours during the working week, even if it is just to arrange a suitable time to talk or give a further response. Please also be aware that replies may not be sent overnight or weekends.

Thank you for your support with this.

Class email address: yr5@colneyheath.herts.sch.uk

Topic: Peace and Conflict (History focus)

Our topic for this term will be **Peace and Conflict**, which is pre-dominantly a history based project. We will be studying the impact that various conflicts / wars have had on our society over a period of 1,000 years from The Battle of Hastings in 1066 (Norman Conquest), to the Battle of Bosworth in 1485 (Wars of the Roses) to the evacuation of children in 1939 as part of World War 2.

Throughout this topic we will be concentrating on the specific history skills of making inferences and conclusions from a range of sources. We will be following a thematic approach and linking other subjects to our topic based on the children's interests and what they want to learn.

On our class webpage you will find a Knowledge Organiser which aims to explain what we will be studying along with some of the key vocabulary and people involved. Please use it at home as a discussion point; it can also form the basis for any additional research that your child may want to do.

English

In Literacy we will be following the Herts for Learning materials. These focused English plans are aimed at addressing Year 5 skills linked to grammar and sentence construction (the building blocks of writing), ensuring that essential prior learning is also embedded.

- Our first two weeks will be based around the book 'Hike'. This book will provide opportunities to engage children in spoken language activities, as well as text exploration and engagement tasks. There will also be opportunities intended to re-build writing stamina.
- We will then ensure that key skills are prioritised and taught



Maths

In Maths we will be following the Herts for Learning materials.

- Place value involving having a secure understanding of the number system, including decimals, rounding, ordering, negative numbers, properties of numbers (multiples, factors, prime and composite) and multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000
- Developing mental strategies (multiplying and dividing mentally)
- Problem solving - word Problems and reasoning skills will be threaded throughout our learning so we can become familiar and confident with answering these styles of questions.

Science

Properties and Changes of Materials

- We will be linking our history topic as much as possible into our Science learning, creating medicinal and magical medieval potions. We will be comparing and grouping together materials on the basis of their properties, dissolving materials to form solutions, along with using our previous knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated.



<p>within rich and engaging contexts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alongside these focused English plans, there will be a strong emphasis on developing reading, spelling, vocabulary, grammar and handwriting skills. - The topic of Peace and Conflict and will provide us with opportunities to explore other text types, including diary writing, report writing, recounts and explanations. - Throughout our literacy learning we will be developing the skills of proof reading, editing and improving (up levelling) our work, to become more confident and independent writers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reasoning skills (e.g. 'How do you know that?', 'Prove to me this is correct/incorrect') - Written formal methods for all operations - Fractions (equivalent fractions, comparing / ordering, adding and subtracting fractions) - Mental Arithmetic - Times tables 	<p>Our main focus within Science will be developing our practical scientific methods, processes and skills.</p>
<p>Art</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Within our art learning, we will be developing our art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture using a range of materials. - We will be studying the work and processes of Henry Moore's sculptures and sketches (linked to WW2) - We will be developing our sketch book work to record our observations and will be using our studies and explorations to review and revisit ideas for our final piece. 	<p>D&T</p> <p>Textiles - Combining different fabric shapes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We will be developing skills of threading needles and joining textiles using a range of stitches. - We will be designing, making and evaluating a fabric advent calendar and Christmas decorations. 	<p>Music</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our first Charanga topic this term will be based around the song 'Livin' On A Prayer' by Bon Jovi. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other classic rock songs. - Our second Charanga topic will be 'Classroom Jazz'. Our learning will be focused around two tunes and improvising: 'Three Note Bossa and Five Note Swing'
<p>Computing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coding - Online safety 	<p>R.E</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Judaism - Christianity 	<p>French</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Family - In the Classroom

PSHE

Our first Jigsaw topic this term will be 'Being Me in My World'.



- We will compare our lives with other peoples in our country and explain why we have rules, rights and responsibilities to try and make the school and the wider community a fair place.

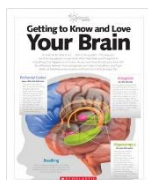
Our second Jigsaw topic will be Celebrating Difference

- We will explain the differences between direct and indirect types of bullying and offer a range of strategies to help ourselves and others if we become involved (directly or indirectly) in a bullying situation.

- Mindfulness techniques

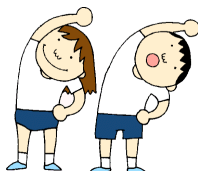
- Learning pit

- Growth mindset



P.E

- Netball
- Dance
- Health related exercise (circuit training)



Equipment:

Our P.E days are **Tuesday** and **Friday**. The children will need appropriate **outdoor PE clothing / footwear** for both of these sessions.

Things to Remember:

Children should hand in their **reading record** every day so they can have an opportunity to become the '**Star Reader**'.



Home Learning

We value Home Learning as an opportunity to:

- practise and re-inforce skills needed in school
- prepare children to learn independently
- build independence on basic life-skills and
- enable children to pursue interests and leisure activities.

Please see our class web page for support with learning. In Year 5 this is our schedule / principles for Home Learning:

- **Children in Year 5 should practise and re-inforce basic skills needed in school by engaging with 30 minutes of independent home learning every night, a minimum of 5 times a week.**

- **Reading - Reading remains the most important daily homework exercise.**

This should consist of a **minimum of 15 minutes reading at least 4 times a week.**

Please support your child's reading progress by regularly hearing them read and using the support pages in their reading record to ask them questions about the text to develop their understanding and comprehension skills. Please also support your child to identify, record and discuss the meaning of any unknown vocabulary words in their reading book. This is crucial to helping your child build up their bank of vocabulary which will enable them to use these higher level word choices in their writing, resulting in greater progress in reading and writing.



Please support your child to regularly hear them read as this is crucial to developing their fluency, comprehension and writing skills.

- **Spellings** - Spelling lists will culminate in a weekly dictation activity to apply the spellings learnt. Spelling lists will be given **every Friday** to be learnt for the following Friday dictation activity.
- **Times Tables** - There will be a big focus on times tables this year. The children will be given one times table fact every week which they will be tested on. Times tables home learning will be given **every Friday** to be learnt for the following Friday test.

Please support your child to regularly practise their times tables at home as knowing these is crucial for their confidence and progress in Maths.

- **TT Rockstars** – Please support your child to regularly practise their TT Rockstars at home.

Opportunities during break and lunch times will be offered to ensure that all children can complete these Home Learning expectations.

Reading, Times Tables and Spelling Home Learning is an ideal opportunity for you to work with your child. Please spend time supporting their learning as this will boost their confidence and raise their attainment in school.

In addition to our scheduled Home Learning activities, the children will be completing regular mental arithmetic tasks. These worksheets and scores will be sent home after completion for you to see how your child is progressing.

In order to develop the necessary independence and life-skills, children in Year 5 should take part in some of the activities listed:

- Catch a bus with someone, pay in a shop with money, prepare a healthy packed lunch, empty the dishwasher/wash up, sort clothes washing and put on a wash, help with the housework.

Enable children to pursue interests and leisure activities:

- Maintain, or follow new clubs or hobbies, e.g. Guides, Sports Teams, Music lessons
- Enjoy family activities **without electronic devices**.

THE IMPORTANCE OF READING

The children's reading records will be collected in every day to monitor reading home learning. This daily monitoring will culminate in two children being rewarded the 'Star Reader' of the week, resulting in a reward/prize. **Please ensure reading books and records are brought into school every day.**

Even in Year 5 it is important that children read to an adult regularly. Please ensure you sign your child's reading record as often as you can.

The children need to be able to discuss their book with you and answer questions related to the book. The children's reading records will help provide everyone who hears the children read with ideas for developing comprehension and responses before, during and after reading. Talking about and questioning the children about their reading books is crucial for supporting children to become more able readers and improve their understanding of what they read. **In particular, developing and extending children's vocabulary of unknown words – "What do you think this word means?" "Can you think of a different synonym (word) that means the same?"**

Although it is vital that parents continue to hear their child read, the children will be asked to start taking a more independent approach to their reading. We would also love to hear about any texts other than the school reading book that they read at home. Please encourage your child to make a note of these in their reading record and ask them to discuss what they are reading with you.

Please see the recommended book list for Year 5 on our class web page and support your child to choose a variety of these recommended books to read over the forthcoming year. This is also a good website with recommended reads for you to choose from. Happy Reading Year 5!

Click on the link: www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/recommended-reads/year-5/

I also encourage talking! Ask your child for their opinion on things such as local news issues etc, asking for evidence to back their thoughts, ideas and views.

Remember key dates you may like to include in your diary, and updated information to support learning can be found on the school website and class pages.

Please do keep in touch – if I am on the playground, please come over and say hello as I would like to be able to share good news with you!

Thank you for all your support for the forthcoming year and please don't hesitate to contact me via email if you have any further questions. I look forward to a happy and successful Autumn Term.

Miss Claridge