



November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new half term. Please find below the details of our topics that we will be covering in the second half of the Autumn term.

Curriculum

English

We start by exploring the legend of 'Beowulf' (Michael Morpurgo), which links with our history topic of Vikings for this half term. During our study of this text, the children will have the opportunity to write for a range of purposes, including newspaper articles and biographies, as well as developing their comprehension skills through close study of the text, gathering evidence to support their ideas and opinions about the characters and events depicted in the book.

Our second text is the narrative poem 'The Highwayman' (Alfred Noyes). During our study of this poem, the children will respond creatively through art and drama, and will explore key features of the poem, such as figurative language and narrative structure.

We will continue to study the Year 5 grammar, punctuation and spelling curriculum, with revision of Year 4 topics as appropriate.

Mathematics

The first topic covered will be multiplication and division. Within this, we will cover multiples, factors, and prime, square and cube numbers. We will also look at multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000, and calculating with multiples of 10, 100 and 1000. At the end of the half term we will cover perimeter and area, as part of our work on measurement. This will include measuring perimeter, calculating the perimeter of rectilinear shapes from diagrams, and calculating the area of rectangles, compound shapes and irregular shapes.

As previously mentioned, times tables to 12 x 12 (including division facts) will be revised throughout the year – please support your child with this. Focused 'refresher' lessons of linked concepts from Year 4 will be taught prior to introducing new content from the Year 5 curriculum, as appropriate.

Science

This half term we will be exploring 'Forces', which will include practical investigations into gravity, friction, air and water resistance, and the effect of gears, levers and pulleys in allowing a smaller force to have a greater effect.

History

'Vikings vs. Anglo Saxons' is our history topic for this half term, and it will focus on the Viking invasions and subsequent settlement in parts of Britain. During the topic we will investigate what Viking life was like, and compare life for those living under Viking rule to those living under Anglo-Saxon rule. The children will also learn about significant historical figures during this time, such as Alfred the Great, King Canute, and Edward the Confessor. The topic ends by exploring the events of 1066 and the Battle of Hastings.

RE

Our topics for this half term are:

Baptism/ confirmation belonging - Marriage, commitment and service

Advent/ Christmas loving - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus, the promised one

Art

The topic of 'People in Action' is the focus for this half term, in which the children have the opportunity to explore how different artists have portrayed movement and apply the techniques to their own work.

Homework

This will be set and handed in digitally, using Google Classrooms.

Children should also continue to use the Mathletics and TTRockstars online learning platforms.

Reading

Your child is expected to read for at least 15 minutes each night. Books, magazines, newspapers and e-books all provide valuable reading practice.

A 'Reading for Pleasure Tube Map' is attached – this gives suggested texts to read based on a child's current preferences (author or genre). The Book Trust (www.booktrust.org.uk) also has lots of reading suggestions and themed book lists. The 'Great Books Guide 2020' is attached with lots of great new titles to explore.

If there is anything further you would like to discuss with us, please do get in touch via phone or email. We look forward to another great half term.

From the Year 5 team

Miss Jackson, Mrs Rowland, and Mrs Cernuschi