

Year 5 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

I hope that you had a good Christmas holiday. I would like to take this time to wish you a very happy New Year. To keep you informed on your child's education here is what they will learn about during the Spring term.

R.E

Our focus in R.E. this term will focus on the Five Pillars of Islam. This is an excellent and engaging way to find out about and appreciate the wide range of faiths that are practised. We will then of course be studying 'The Journey of Easter' in the lead up to this special time of year.

English

English this term will continue to focus on improving the children's writing and reading through a variety of genres including fiction and non-fiction such as setting descriptions and narratives. Our chosen text 'The Secret Garden' has cross-curricular links this term. The book has already started to enthuse the children. This is evident in the work they are already producing as a result. The text will be used to support children in Guided Reading sessions. In the Autumn term book marks were sent home as a way to support parents questioning surrounding reading. Please let me know if these need replacing.

Maths

Our Maths this term will continue to build on the children's number facts as well as expanding their understanding of fractions, ratios and problem solving and reasoning.

We will also be encouraging the children to learn all of their times tables from 2x to 12x as they are a fundamental part of maths. It would be great if you could support your child with this at home by helping them

regularly recite (and testing them on) their times tables.

TTRS will be checked weekly to monitor the children's progress.

Science

We will be focussing on life cycles and reproduction— linking to our geography unit 'Sow, Grow and Farm'. Children will build on their knowledge of life cycles and grouping and classifying from previous year groups, as well as understanding the process of reproduction.

PE

PE remains on the timetable for Tuesdays, with swimming on Thursdays at Tipton swimming baths where they will be taught by trained swimming instructors. Please make sure that your child has their full swimming kits on Thursday. It's always a good idea to have items of clothing named. Also, a polite reminder to ensure that earrings are removed (before school), otherwise your child will not be allowed to enter the pool. Thank you.

Topic

Geography - The focus for this term is farming and land use in the UK. The children will study its topography and climate and understand how this influences the type of farming involved. They will explore how farmers grow produce on a mass scale, and the ways the produce makes its way into our supermarkets and homes. They will also explore the ways in which climate change affects what can be grown around the world and the reasons why people like our Agent of Change, Greta Thunberg, campaigns so often to change the way we eat!

Art - Children will develop their skills of line drawing with pencil and pen, as well as applying the techniques of adding light and shadow. We will also look at the work of Picasso and Rembrandt.

Computing - The theme of this term's computing aims to enhance the children's coding skills using Code.org; a scheme of work that develops understanding of coding (algorithms, loops, nested loops, conditionals and events). Children will solve coding problems in addition to writing their own programmes.

Reading records and spellings.

A reminder that children's reading records are checked on Monday, and Friday. Ensure that you sign to show that you have listened to your child read. If a reading record is mislaid or lost, we will happily accept a signed note, rather than children seeing mislaid/lost reading records as an excuse to not read!

Spellings will be set on Friday and tested in school the following Friday. Encourage your child learn their spellings during the week to ensure that they get full marks, as well as getting them to log on to Spelling Shed daily so that they can access further spelling practice.

Finally, as always, if you have any problems or concerns and wish to speak to me, I am available at the beginning and the end of the school day. I will not, however, be available after school on a Monday as it is our staff meeting. You can also make an appointment via the school office to see me for more important issues or concerns.

Thank you for your support.

Class Teacher: Mr Heath O'Toole

LSP: Mrs Rollason