

Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter- Spring 2019

Topic - Look to the East

For the first half term, we will be looking at China. This will include its location within the world and some of its human and physical features. Throughout the topic, the children will have the opportunity to develop their map-based skills, using a variety of maps for different purposes. We will also be looking into the history of China, specifically the Shang Dynasty and their traditions/way of life. In the second half of the term, we will focus on the Himalayan Mountains and how they formed. This will then lead into our mini topic on earthquakes, volcanoes and mountains. During this topic, the children will have the opportunity to design and create an earthquake proof building. In science, we will continue to use knowledge from our work on investigating materials and their properties and forces.

Maths:

In maths this term we will be focusing on the following areas:

Multiplication and division
Fractions
Decimals and percentages
Problem solving and reasoning

We will continue to concentrate on the children's mental calculation agility. We hope that you will be able to support the children in everyday mathematical opportunities. In addition, it is crucial that the children continue to learn and revise their multiplication and division tables to 12 x 12. These will be tested on a regular basis through Times Table Rockstars quizzes.

The children will continue to practise the skills required for the mental arithmetic paper in Year 6. This will require the children to have a solid understanding of the written methods for all four operations. In order to feel confident with these operations, it is vital that they are fluent with their times tables and addition and subtraction facts such as bonds to 100 and decimal complements to make one.

How you can help at home:

- Help children to practise the recall of timetables and division facts. The children have their TTRockstars logins in their maths home learning books
- Playing games – e.g. countdown where children are given a number to make with the four operations

Encourage children to explain their answers and describe how they have solved a problem.



Spellings:

We will be continuing with the Read Write Inc spelling scheme. Your child will be able to describe the unit they are working on and some of the key words we have been looking at in class. Your child will also be returning home with their spelling log book in the next few weeks which will help you to identify the words they are struggling with. This term, your child will also come home with a list of spellings from the Year 5/6 word list. The dates provided will tell you when the children will be tested on these, which will go through to our school spelling competition. In order to support with this at home, please practise these regularly with your child.

Dates for your Diary:

For further dates, please see the school website.

05.02.19 – Safer Internet Day
07.03.19 – World Book Day
05.03.19 – Parents' evening
12.03.19 – Parents' evening
15.03.19 – Tom Palmer author visit
15.03.19 – Red Nose Day
19.03.19 – Lapworth museum trip (2 classes)
21.03.19 Lapworth museum trip (1 class)
25.03.19-29.03.19 – STEM week

English:

During the spring term, we will be concentrating on narrative, persuasive letters and report writing, linked to our topic on China. This will include a closer look at the narrative text **The Hobbit** by **JRR Tolkien**. We will be reading this in class; however, if the children would like to read the text at home, then it will help to support our study of this author. Further suggested reading can be given by your child's class teacher or through the recommended reading lists on our website.

This is an exciting term for reading with many events happening in school. Due to this, we will be doing a lot of work on reading for pleasure and recommending texts. Please continue to encourage your child to read at home so they can fully take part in these discussions.



Reminders

PE Kits

The children will have one indoor and one outdoor session of PE each week. As the weather continues to be cold in the early part of this term, the children are permitted to wear tracksuit bottoms and a sweatshirt when outdoors. We ask that all children have suitable footwear in school for these lessons to ensure that they are able to take part safely. For the indoor sessions, the children will be expected to wear their shorts and t-shirts, as usual. We do not encourage the children to wear jogging bottoms indoors, as they can be unsafe on the gym equipment. If your child has pierced ears, we request that they have some Micropore tape to cover ear-rings during the lesson if they cannot be removed.

Art Aprons

Please ensure your child has an old shirt or t-shirt in school to cover their uniform during Art and DT lessons. If your child has not already done so, we politely remind you to send one in. Thank you.

Pencil Cases

Only small pencil cases will be permitted in school. Presentation is taken very seriously in Year 5 and 6 therefore the school will provide pencils and handwriting pens for use throughout the day. Children must not bring felt tips, biros, compasses, scissors, smaller rulers and rubbers. Any large pencil cases or items which are not required will be sent home.

Homework learning

All homework is due in on a Monday

Maths and **SPaG/English** homework will be given out on a **Tuesday**.

It is important that the children complete their homework and hand this in on time as they will be marking their own work in class in order to discuss their answers and receive verbal feedback on their work.

Spellings will be provided to the children and we ask that they practice them at home in preparation for their end of unit test.

In addition, we ask that the children **record their reading at least 3 times a week in their diary. Diaries will be checked by the teacher on a weekly basis.**

To further support your child, the school subscribes to the following websites:

Times Table Rockstars, Letter Join for handwriting and Education City

Details of how to log into these can be found in your child's home learning books.