

Dear Parents,

YEAR 5 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER – SPRING TERM

Happy New Year to you all! A very warm welcome back after what we hope has been a restful and festive Christmas season. The previous term was a great success and we are looking forward to building on that in the coming months. We have an exciting array of topics and subjects ahead of us over the next few months and this letter is to give you a flavour of what is in store for your children.

English

In English, we will link our writing to our science topic on Space. We will be focusing on developing our skills for writing narratives as well as creating explanation texts. Later in the term, we will be exploring non-fiction writing by creating space-related information texts.

Maths

In Maths we will be focusing on Multiplication and Division, Area and Perimeter and Fractions, Decimals and Percentages throughout the spring terms, alongside further developing the children's abilities to use and apply known methods to solve mathematical problems. The aim will be to become more adept at reasoning to solve challenges both independently and in groups. Continued consolidation of their basic skills is a key area as this will build their confidence as we move forward towards the end of year; therefore, we ask that the children are continuing to **regularly practise their times tables and corresponding division facts at home to aid them in this.**

Science

In Science, we will move on to the subject of Space. The children will have the opportunity to learn about our Solar system, the planets within it and how they orbit the sun, and how day and night and seasons are created by the rotation of Earth on its axis and its revolution around the sun.

After half term, we will be studying living things and their habitats. This units covers topics such as life cycles of flora and fauna, metamorphosis, and gestation periods.

Computing

Year 5 will be programming during this half term. Specifically, we will be using BBC Microbits as physical computing devices and learning how to understand its inputs and outputs and how to use selection and conditionals in the programs.

The Arts

In Art, the children will be doing some curricular learning by focusing on Islamic patterns often found on lamps used during Ramadan and Eid. The children will then create their own geometric designs.

Humanities

In the first half term we will be exploring Biomes. The children will learn about the threats that biomes are facing and their importance to the planet as well as how many inhabitants have adapted to live in certain biomes.

After half term, our History focus shifts back in time to the Ancient Greeks. Our main aim is to understand how ancient Greece has had an influence on life today - whether it is political, philosophical, mathematical, or simply some of the greatest stories ever told.

Health and Wellbeing

Our Personal, Social and Health Education sessions are embedded throughout our curriculum and focus this term on how the children are able to keep themselves and others safe – looking at the subjects of cyber-bullying, using the internet, contacts, social media amongst other matters.

PE

Our PE will consist of swimming on a Monday afternoon and PE on a Wednesday. In the pool, the children will be developing their basic strokes, developing stamina and will also be introduced to lifesaving skills. In our school based PE sessions, the children will be working to develop coordination, communication, and teamwork within games such as throw tennis, seated volleyball, and bench ball.

On PE days, please ensure your child has adequate kit including appropriate footwear, long bottoms and a warm top, as we will be outside on some occasions. Long hair must be tied up and earrings should be taken out on PE and swimming days. All kit will be sent home on Fridays to be washed and should be brought back in on Tuesday morning in case of timetable changes.

Spellings

There will be weekly challenge words (Orange Words' as the children know them – check ClassDojo each week), which they will be tested on every Friday; these are standalone words and are not connected to the spelling patterns they learn during their lessons. Instead, the children are encouraged to use them in their writing whenever they can but could also practise them at home. They will be posted on Dojo weekly.

RE

In RE, we will be learning about the Islamic faith by understanding the Five Pillars of Islam and how Muslim people live their lives according to the pillars.

French

This term the children will be learning how to talk about pets and animals – knowing how to recognise and say their names while also describing general features.

Performing Arts

In addition, the students will be taught by Mr Driver in Performing Arts lessons

Key Dates

Please refer to the website via the following link:

<https://www.nicholashawksmooracademy.com/events/>

Homework

Mathletics: Please encourage your child to complete their assigned tasks on Mathletics for a minimum of 30 minutes per week. Deadline is Sunday evening of each week.

Weekly Reading: Please encourage your child to read as much as possible and evidence this on Class Dojo. We are encouraging the children to read daily - either independently or with an adult.

Our Golden Rules: Be ready, Be safe, Be respectful

Across the school, we are working to develop children's character and understanding of responsibility. As a result, each year group have created three pledges to achieve by the end of the year with the children.

Our Pledges:

1. We pledge to regularly litter pick around school to ensure a clean and attractive environment.
2. We pledge to plant bulbs by the Jubilee tree to enhance the entrance to the school and the local community.
3. We pledge to learn the main countries and capitals of Europe.

Best wishes,

The Year 5 Team



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