

February 2009

Dear Parents/Carers

Following a really successful and enjoyable half term I am writing now to give you information about the great things that will be happening in the second half of the spring term.

Lessons

Main Learning Theme

Our cross curricular theme will be Our Place. It is a science based topic and will contain activities that teach about life processes and living things.

There will also be the opportunity for us to link all of other curricular subjects including art, geography and ICT to Our Place; an exciting and stimulating subject.

Numeracy

We will continue with the new Numeracy framework. We will be starting Unit Two and sections C, D and E (working with number, calculations, applying their knowledge , shape and data) all of these will be building on the children's skills and learning from Autumn term. More details about the objectives and areas covered can be found on the following web page:

<http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/primaryframework/mathematics/learningobjectives/Years/Year5>

The separate mental mathematics and times tables lessons will continue and I would like to remind you that it is vital that all children in Year 5 know their tables up to at least 10 times 10.

Literacy

This will be focused on traditional stories, fables, myths and legends and persuasive texts. The children will get the opportunity to explore different stories and make up their own mythical characters which they will write a short story about.

For persuasive texts the children will be looking at how to create a strong argument for use in a class debate. For further information you can access the Literacy Framework

<http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/primaryframework/literacy/planning/Year5>

ICT

Continuing on from the work we have done in literacy and science, there will be more opportunity to use a range of multi media across all lessons and the chance to make films and to record performances and work.

PE

There will be PE sessions on Thursday and Friday mornings. They will require both indoor and outdoor kit and girls with long hair will need to have it tied back for safety reasons. Any earrings (studs only are allowed in school) will also have to be removed or covered with a plaster which must be supplied from home. Please ensure your child has the proper kit with them.

Learning Skills

The whole school theme for developing learning skills will be 'Knowing Me, Knowing You' (Developing a Sense of Self Worth & Understanding of Self and Others).

We will be working towards the following I Can statements

- I can describe the positive things about differences between people.
- I can share how I am feeling with trusted friends and adults when I am unhappy or scared.
- I can take an interest in the positive qualities of others, their interests and activities and compare to my own.
- I can use a range of strategies that help keep me calm when I feel under pressure.

General

Homework

This will be continuing more of a project theme and the shorter activities, usually literacy, maths or science based will still be given when there is a need to either reinforce or compliment something that has been delivered in class. Homework needs to be completed and handed in for the following Monday morning, unless otherwise stated. Children will also be given spellings to learn, although these will not be every week. Homework is an ideal time for you to support your child with their learning and again a huge thank you to everyone who has spent time doing this half term; it means a lot to your child and, from some of the comments I have had, has even taught some of you new skills!

End of the day

Please feel free to use this time to talk to me about any concerns you may have, however if you need more than a few minutes then you can always make an appointment for a more convenient time.

Should you need to collect your child at other times during the school day then you will need to go to the main Office area.

All of the adults that will be working with Year 5, Mrs Mee, Mrs Coolbear, Mrs Brittan and myself are looking forward to continuing the success of last term.

Kind regards,

Fiona Watt
Class Teacher
Teacher

Mrs Mee
TA

Mrs Coolbear
HLTA

Mrs Brittan
TA

Mrs Reynolds
Head