

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a lovely break. Remember it is important that all children arrive at school promptly at **8:50** am ready for a fun packed day of learning! Please don't hesitate to come and see a member of the Year 5 team if you have any worries or questions.

Science

Our science topic this half-term is Forces. We will investigate a range of different forces: gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction. Children will develop an understanding of balanced and unbalanced forces and their effects. We will investigate how mechanisms like levers, pulleys and gears, help us to use smaller forces. You can help at home by reading information on the KS2

BBC Bitesize website. http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/physical_processes/forces/read/1/

Music

This term in music, we will focus on rhythm. We will learn to play the Bamboo Taboo, to create layered pieces of rhythmic music and perform songs from the Caribbean.

PE

This term we will be learning to play netball and tennis. In dance, children will acquire and practise to create a dance/drama performance piece of an invasion.

Topic

We loved the creativity of the Home learning projects. Well done! They are now proudly on display around the school! This half term, children will learn about the Roman Empire and its impact on Britain at the time and the legacy it left us. In Geography, children will develop an understanding of the location and extent of the Roman Empire.

Mathematics This half term we will be focusing on multiplication and division. We will learn to multiply numbers up to 4 digits by a one- or two-digit number using a formal written method, including long multiplication for two-digit numbers. We will be learning to divide numbers up to 4 digits by a one-digit number using the formal written method of short division and interpret remainders appropriately for the context.

It is extremely important children are confident recalling their times tables facts up to 12 x12. This will help them immensely, when using a formal written method. Help at home by practising times tables with your child. You can play multiplication bingo or make up a song for the times tables your child needs more practise with. Mathsrockx is a fun and engaging App, where children can learn times tables through songs. Here is a link to their website: <http://www.mathsrockx.com/>

Spring 1 in Year 5



Computing

This half term is safer internet day and the theme is 'making a positive change.' We will be working with children to see how they can help make the internet a safer place themselves. We will be reminding children of our school policy and our safety motto 'Lock it, block it, show it, tell it.'

English

This term we will be learning to write our own Myth. We will be reading the story of Perseus and Medusa, to familiarise ourselves with the features and language. We will then carefully select appropriate grammar and vocabulary to write our own myth, to engage our audience. Help at home by reading Myths, there are plenty on the following website: <http://myths.e2bn.org/>

How can I help my child at home?



Websites

There are lots of fun games to help with Maths and English on the internet, that can be accessed on a tablet or home computer.

Don't forget your child can use **Sumdog** at home!

Useful websites:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths>

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/punctuation>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english>

<http://www.mathsrockx.com/>

<http://www.theschoolrun.com>

The School Run gives you a wide range of tools you need to understand what and how your child is learning in Year 5 in English, Maths and foundation subjects. This site is definitely worth a look.

Reading advice

Read, read, read!

Please make sure your child reads daily. Reading helps develop their vocabulary and imagination and helps improve their writing and concentration. If you have any non-fiction (information) books, please read these too!

The children will still have a home-reading book and a library book as usual. It is really important that you write in your child's reading log when they have read with you.

Also, the 'Reading Rockets' should be coloured in **every night/morning** that your child has read their **home-school reader**. Don't forget they get a treat when they have coloured all of their rockets! Please do keep reminding the teachers for a dip in the box - it is too easy to forget!

Talk about books:

Try to read to and with your child often. Discuss the illustrations, the characters, the language used by the writer, or whether you like the book and why. We are now doing a lot of predicting about stories with questions like 'what might happen next?' and 'how do you think the character is feeling?' to develop a deeper understanding of the story.

Important Days, Homework, home-reading and library books

5C— PE is on Monday

Dance is on Thursday

5H—PE is on Thursday

Dance is on Wednesday

☆ **Homework will be sent home every MONDAY and is due back FRIDAYS. It is an expectation that all children complete their homework each week.**

Home-reading books and Library books will be changed on **Wednesdays**. Please ensure your child's books are in their bag ready to be changed.

Library books need to be in your child's bag ready to be changed on Library day.