



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

October 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

For our 2nd half of autumn term in Year 5, our topic will be **'Wild Water!** We will be using maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate rivers within cities and counties in the UK, as well as other countries and continents around the world. We will be learning how rivers are formed and the process of the water cycle. Children will be making a model of the water cycle and we would appreciate it if over the half term holiday you can collect any clear plastic containers for us to use for our investigations. Clear plastic water bottles are ideal! We plan to visit the river Nene as part of our investigations on river pollution. This is an exciting topic which should bring up all sorts of environmental issues and debates.

We will also be studying Hinduism in this term and would like to invite you to an assembly in the school hall on **Thursday 12th November from 2:40pm to 3:15pm** at which we will celebrate the Hindu 'Festival of Light'. Some Indian snacks will be served.



MAIN LEARNING THEME

The main learning areas of our topic – **'Wild Water'** are geography and science, but will also include computing.

Key Vocabulary:

Rivers, lake, stream, waterfall, mountain, valley, erosion, mouth, ox-bow, meander, bridge, course, upper, middle, lower source/origins, water, mouth, flow, meander, spring, estuary, tributary, water cycle, evaporation, condensation, run off, precipitation, transpiration, accumulation, depth, speed, rate of flow.

MATHS

We will be covering the following topic areas in Maths in the 2nd half of autumn term:

- Fractions and proportion
- Angles and triangles
- Statistics
- Measurement
- Time

Children need to continue to learn their multiplication facts up to 12 x 12 as this will help them with their mathematical workings. Regular tables practice is included in weekly homework tasks.

ENGLISH

In Literacy and Language, we will be looking at a modern re-telling of a myth/dilemma story. Children will learn about the concept of a dilemma and explore how the main character changes in the story, *Bling!* by Jon Blake. One of their writing tasks will be to create a diary entry in which they explore the character's feelings and build up suspense.

They will also be exploring the difference between a first person recount, such as a diary, and a newspaper report of the same event. Children will compose their own newspaper report for a younger audience.

Supporting books:

Bling! By Jon Blake

Suggested wider reading:

Artemis Fowl – Eoin Colfer

Coraline – Neil Gaiman

Diamond of Drury Lane – Julia Golding

Lionboy – Zizou Corder

The Midas Touch – Jan Mark Juan Wijngaard

The Chocolate Touch – Patric Skene Catling

Children should continue to read and discuss an increasingly wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks.

PE

PE will be covered in two one-hour sessions each week. Please ensure your child has both indoor and outdoor kit in school with them all week. Please send this kit in with your child on Monday and take home on Friday of each week to be washed. Children 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 (by the child) or covered with a plaster. Please ensure that your child has a clean PE kit each week. Trainers are essential for outdoor PE at this time of year, and as the weather gets colder during winter, they will need a warmer top and track suit bottoms as well.

HOME LEARNING

Your child will receive a Maths and an English homework task each week. The homework will be given out on Wednesday after school, to be returned the following week on Wednesday morning.

In addition to this, your child can choose to undertake a half-term home learning 'POWER project', which could be the focus of their homework for the beginning of the term. Ideas of what this could cover are

'**Water all around us**' (UK and homes) or alternatively the life and work of David Hockney, the artist.

Activities should include opportunities to:

- **Develop creativity**
- **Explore mathematical skills**
- **Extend research skills**
- **Explore the locality**

This project is not compulsory, but is a fantastic way to involve family and friends in their learning. This can involve the whole family and should be linked to our topic theme; the more creative the better! Your child can use the Internet to carry out research, create PowerPoints, use photographs, diagrams with annotations, etc.



READING

Please continue to read with your child at home. Each week, they will be given 1 or 2 reading books which they can share with you at home and will be changed weekly. Year 5 have the opportunity to visit the library and learn about all the different types of books and how to use a library. Those children who have Kindles will have the opportunity to read these on a daily basis and be able to select new books to read.

BREAK TIME SNACK

A piece of fruit for break time snack is appropriate. Please remember that we encourage healthy eating. We must also remind you that we are a nut free school. Do not send your child to school with any food item containing nuts.

SCHOOL MEALS

A hot school meal is available each day. Please ensure that this is paid for in advance using our ParentPay system.

END OF THE DAY

Please feel free to use this time to talk to us 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.

Mrs Marlow
Class Teacher

Mr Mills
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Gill
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Reynolds
Head Teacher

