



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

February 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a packed half term we have had in year 5 since Christmas! We have been researching and presenting an awesome amount of facts on our Animal Kingdom topic. It is also exciting that we still have our trip to enjoy after the half-term break. There will be a new whole school topic next term which is based around the Lewis Carroll story of Alice in Wonderland. Each class will have their own specific focuses within the different areas of the curriculum. This theme will again be linked across our wider curriculum work and will be the basis for our whole school production in April.

MAIN LEARNING THEME – Alice in Wonderland

Areas of study for the second half of the spring term will include:

- Songs and poetry;
- Moving toys;
- Improvisation and representation through sounds and movements;
- Map reading and navigation.

KEY VOCABULARY FOR LEARNING THEME:

Characterise; improvise; represent; rhyme; rhythm; phrase; prose; verse; chorus; volume; vibration; latitude; longitude; navigation; direction; sound waves; symbol; direction; north; south; east; west; compass.

LEARNING SKILLS – Developing a sense of self-worth

The main focus will be based on these statements:

- I can describe the positive things about differences between people;
- I can share how I'm feeling with trusted friends and adults when I'm unhappy or scared;
- I can use simple strategies to modify my mood positively when I need to;
- I can take an interest in the positive qualities of others, their interests and activities and compare to my own.

NUMERACY

The main objectives are as follows: number work, calculations, problem solving, shape, measures and data handling.

We will also be focussing on mental maths and times tables. We will be working on **Block C2 (continued) – Handling data and measures, including the likelihood of events; Block D2 – Calculating, area/perimeter, coordinates and time; Block E2 – Securing number facts, calculating multiplication and division, percentages/fraction and using a calculator.** We have also recently started the Big Maths programme that focuses further learning across the school based on specific gaps that need filling in the children's learning. So far this has been successful and I am sure this will continue to motivate the children in the term to come.



LITERACY

The new Read, Write Inc Literacy and Language programme has proved to be a great success through the school and in year 5 we have embraced it extremely well. The partner work and focused vocabulary have helped to embed skills learnt in previous years and develop their comprehension and writing skills even further. Next term year 5 will be studying **dilemma stories, recounts, and stories from a significant author.**

ICT

Children will continue to access the class set of Netbooks to support and develop their learning across the curriculum. Children will look at using a variety of ICT programs such as Word; PowerPoint; Database software and graphical/ data handling tools; along with recording equipment and film storyboard software. Children will regularly access the Internet as a source of information and to develop their skills of scanning and retrieving key information; taking notes and recording information in their own words. Children will also utilise E-Learning programmes to practise and apply skills learnt across the curriculum. E-safety is of great importance and will be imbedded into all ICT and will be focused on specifically in PSHE.

PE

Children will continue to partake in two hours of PE each week. Please remind your child that they should bring their PE kit into school on a Monday, **leave it in school all week** then take it home to be washed on a Friday. This way, if we choose to do extra PE, the children will have their kit in school. Can we remind you that school rules state that for the safety of your child, earrings need to be removed for PE (which needs to be done independently) or plasters (provided by home) need to cover the earrings. Children with long hair will also be asked to ensure that it is tied back. With the weather deteriorating this winter, please ensure they have appropriate outdoor kit, including **spare socks, gloves and long trousers/sleeves.**

READING

Please continue to encourage your child to read at home, it is crucial to support their progression with reading comprehension and has a vital impact on their own writing across the curriculum. The children have the opportunity to visit the library once a week as a class; in this session, they can change their library book and research our topic. There is also extra provision through the week for some children to have reading time with an adult. Children should continue to develop the ability to choose a book that is both suitable and interesting for them, which they finish in its entirety. Please encourage your child to read a variety of texts, including stories, non-fiction, magazines, comics, children's newspapers and poetry. The children are expected to fill in their reading record books, and these should be brought to school throughout the week. Stickers showing the specific reading focus the child has been learning that week will also be placed into the reading record books so it is imperative that every child brings in their reading record book every day to school; especially on a Friday, when house points will be available to those children completing reading each week!

HOME LEARNING

Your child will receive a weekly activity in their Learning Logs, which will be given out on a Wednesday and should be returned on the following Tuesday. Every Tuesday, one Learning Log per class is chosen to be shared in the whole school assembly on Thursday. Your child will also be awarded House Points for the work produced in their Learning Logs. The way in which the work is presented is entirely up to the child. In addition, there will be Literacy and Language and/or numeracy homework set.



Home learning is expected to be completed each week at home and handed in on time by Tuesday. If children do not meet this requirement then they will complete the home learning during break time. Can you please ensure that your child completes their home learning each week. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher. If children have any problems or queries about the home learning given, there is opportunity on a Friday lunch time for them to get help and/or advice required.

In addition to this, your child can choose to undertake a half term home learning project, which could be the focus of their homework for the beginning of the term. 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!

Continue the ceaseless efforts and enjoyment!!

The first half of year 5 has been an enjoyable and fascinating one, filled with exciting learning and lots of fun. We now look forward to starting the next half in an exciting way, continuing to work together as a class and filling the weeks with more new and exciting learning opportunities. We are certain next term will be enjoyed by us all, with continued progress and achievement by all in year 5.

Yours sincerely

Miss Miller
Class Teacher

Mrs Sprouse
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Brittan
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Frost
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Reynolds
Head Teacher

