

Year 5 Spring Newsletter 2019

Happy New Year! This term year 5 will be building on what we have learnt so far this year as well as introducing many new and exciting topics.

Over the next few months we are going on a number of wonderful trips to tie in with what we are learning in class: We will visit the British Museum to enhance our understanding of Ancient Greece and the Science Museum to expand our knowledge of the wonders of space.

Literacy will continue this theme, exploring the features of Sci-Fi writing using the model text *The Hitch-hiker's Guide to the Galaxy* as inspiration. A smooth gear change will introduce Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet later on in the term, enriched by a workshop examining Shakespeare's use of language.

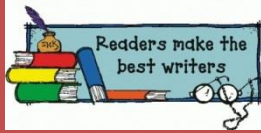
We are excited to offer the chance for Y5 pupils to learn a new computation language, 'MakeCode', for which they will receive an official accreditation at the end of this term.

The children and I are also very happy to introduce a new member of our class, Mr Muir, who will be our Teaching Assistant for the remainder of the year. Welcome to Coppermill, Mr Muir!

As ever, if you have any comments or concerns please don't hesitate to speak to me after school or you could call the school office to arrange a meeting.

Best wishes,

Miss Frank and the rest of the Year 5 team



Literacy



In the first half term, we will be reading various Sci-Fi stories - with a focus on The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy - as well as writing our own, including a new Science Fiction version of the three little pigs and an imagined diary about landing on a distant planet.

In the second half term, we will be studying Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare. We will be exploring Shakespeare's language in depth, doing lots of drama and will even take part in a Shakespeare workshop.

Reading improves everything about a child's literacy and it is important that you help your child to read at home for short periods of time. Our expectation is that all children read at home every day (or at least several times per week).

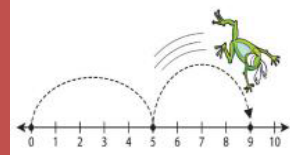
Here are some ideas for websites relating to literacy:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education> (Click KS2 > English)

<http://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks2-school-pupils/suggested-reading-list-for-year-5-pupils-ks2-age-9-10/>



Mathematics



In the spring term the children will be building on the core skills we covered in the Autumn term. We will be using our calculation skills to solve problems including worded problems and will be learning about measurements, geometry, fractions and percentages as well as revising multiplication and division.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their maths skills:

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

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2numeracy.html>

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

<http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>



Science

In Science we will be covering several topics including the brain and space.

When we look at the brain, we will learn about how different sides of the brain control different things in our body, what kind of brain we have, and how the brain affects the speed of our reactions.

In our space topic, we will be learning about the relationship between the sun, the moon and the earth including understanding night and day and the phases of the moon and also seeking to understand our solar system.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their science skills:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/science/>

<http://www.resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/science>

<http://www.kidspot.com.au/kids-activities-and-games/science>



Humanities



In history we will be studying Ancient Greece. This will develop children's understanding of the beginnings of democracy and philosophy, two topics we have explored during the Autumn term, while engaging with their inner performer as we explore theatre and myth.

The themes of democracy and philosophy will no doubt enrich discussion around our Advocacy project in conjunction with the RSPCA, in which Comet class are entering a competition to be the RSPCA's most compassionate class of 2019.

In geography, we will be developing map skills. This will include reading and following maps, drawing maps to scale and making models to represent contour lines.



Computing

During this term, we'll be taking part in a pilot project where the children will be combining coding and Minecraft. This will build on their computation knowledge and give them access to a new coding language – MakeCode. On completion of the project, they will receive an officially recognised accreditation.

We will also continue to focus on how we can use technology and the internet in a safe and responsible way.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their computing skills:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.kidsmart.org.uk

www.lfgl.net

www.code.org

www.scratch.mit.edu

www.kodugamelab.com



Art/Design & Technology

This term we'll be doing art and design projects based on our topics. We will make Greek pots with Olympic images and a collaborative Space-themed collage to jazz up our classroom door. We will also look to last term's recycling topic and upcycling some of our plastic waste into Space rockets.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their artistic skills:

<http://www.artsconnected.org/toolkit/index.html>

<http://www.disney.co.uk/disney-junior/art-attack/>



R.E.



In R.E. this term we will cover Christianity and Hinduism. We will learn about the figure of Jesus, how Jesus is represented in the Bible and the importance of his life for Christians. We will explore what Hindus believe and what life is like being a Hindu.



P.E.

This term PE will be on **Mondays**.

We will be developing our skills in a range of gymnastics and ball games. Please ensure that your child has appropriate PE kit in school, including footwear (trainers or plimsolls) particularly as the weather gets colder.



Home Learning

Homework will be handed out each Friday and is due in on the following week.

Your child will receive weekly Maths homework in the form of worksheets, the Year 5 spelling list and half-termly Home Learning projects.