

Year 5 Newsletter – Summer Term 2



Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you had a wonderful half term break and are ready and recharged for the term ahead.

The following is an overview of what your child will be taught in the second half of the Summer term, as well as general timetabling information.

In **English**, we are exploring Japanese literature. Children will be looking at the history and culture of Japan, as well as 'My Japan Awesome Adventure' by Rebecca Otowa and 'On the Horizon' by Lois Lowry. We will also cover writing Haiku and Tanka poetry, as well as Japanese manga and anime art work.

We are continuing with accelerated reader, where the children will be bringing books home to read. We will continue to put a lot of focus on **reading**. We will have separate **Destination Reader** sessions, which will involve explicitly teaching reading strategies, such as clarifying, inferring, predicting, questioning, summarising and making connections with the wider world. Please try to encourage your child to read as much and as widely as possible and, wherever possible, please take the time to read with your child.

Our **Maths** focus this term is Numbers- decimals and percentages. This is new learning for Year 5, building on the fractions block. Children learn that both proper fractions and decimals can be used to represent values between whole numbers. The children will also build on earlier work of fractions and place value and explores different contexts, including measures. As the children progress through their learning, we will also be focusing on how to solve word problems, developing our ability to reason and explain using clear mathematical language. Children will also be practising mental maths strategies and arithmetic. **Children will be tested on their times tables on a weekly basis.**

In **Geography** the children will explore extreme weather with a focus on Japan. We will learn about the earth's climate and extreme temperatures, as well as earthquakes and their causes. We will also look at tsunamis and explore the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami in detail.



In **Science**, we will be exploring the animal and human life cycles, including gestation periods, growth of babies and changes in old age. We will also explore puberty in humans and animals, as well as life expectancy.

In **Art/DT**, we are designing and constructing a Japanese Kite. We will research the rich history of Japanese kites, learn how to assemble a kite, as well as combine materials and components to create a traditional Japanese kite.

In **French** this term, we are learning about the weather and clothes . They will continue to develop their French vocabulary and grammar.

In **Music**, children will continue with their guitar lessons, which will be every Friday morning.

In **Religious Education** we will be exploring different religious and spiritual ways of life, including the three important ideas of Ahimsa, Grace and Ummah (Hinduism, Christianity and Islam).

P.E. will be on **Thursday** mornings. Please ensure your child comes to school in the correct kit on Thursdays.

Homework: your child will be expected to read for **15-20 minutes every night**. Learning the weekly spellings and times tables is mandatory, with a test every Thursday. Please refer to the term's Homework Planner.

If there is anything that you wish to talk to us about, we will be available every day at home time.

Best wishes,

Ms Dewan and Miss Budden

