

# Year 5 Newsletter – Autumn Term 1



Dear Parents/Carers:

Firstly, we would like to wish you a very warm welcome back to the new school year. We hope that you all had a very enjoyable and restful summer break. It really is a pleasure for us to be teaching your children again. We are all very much looking forward to focusing on the year ahead. Jo Royer is our Teaching Assistant and Kabita is our Learning Support Assistant. We are all excited for our year ahead together!

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

In **English**, we will begin by reading a classic text by William Shakespeare; *The Scottish Play - Macbeth*. Through reading this book as a whole class, we will be exploring why Shakespeare's work still remains popular in today's modern world. We will be creating our own poems with a focus on rhyming couplets influenced by 'The Witches Song'. We will also be writing a diary entry and a suspenseful text from Lady Macbeth's point of view. Additionally, we will also be focusing on key grammar and punctuation skills. A big focus this year will also be on vocabulary and spelling. This year, we will also be putting 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 half-term will include: place value and securing strategies for addition and subtraction. We will also be solving word problems, developing our ability to reason and explain using clear mathematical language plus, check our working out. Children will also be practicing mental math strategies and arithmetic. **Children will be tested on their times tables on a weekly basis.**

Our **History** topic will be Henry VIII and The Tudors. We will be learning all about the history of the Tudors, including topics such as; Tudor dress, crime and punishment, diseases in Tudor Britain, and the life of Tudor children.



In **Science**, our topic will be “Living things and their habitats”. We will be learning to explain the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird. We will also be exploring asexual and sexual reproduction in plants.

In Year 5, in **French** this term, we will be learning to describe the weather and also about family members in the context of Henry VIII. We will be practising phonics and saying, reading and writing sentences to ask for and give classroom items. E.g. Do you have a pen, please? Yes, here you are!/ No, I'm sorry, I don't have a pen.

In **Music**, children will have the opportunity to continue violin, cello or brass. Weekly guitar lessons will be every Friday morning.

Finally, our “big question” in **Religious Education** this term is: *What do the miracles of Jesus teach us?* In this unit, we will explore what is a miracle and make comparisons to who can perform them. We will question if people have to visit specific places for miracles to happen or is it a question of faith? We will make contrasts/comparisons between what we are learning and our own individual beliefs.

P.E. will be on **Wednesday** mornings. Please ensure your child comes into school in the correct kit on Wednesdays.

Homework will be set on a half termly basis. The activities that are set are optional. The core subjects that are compulsory are the Topic Project, spellings and times tables (which will be tested weekly in class).

We are really looking forward to teaching year 5 and we think that we will have a great year together! If there is anything that you wish to talk to us about, please do let us know.

Best wishes,

Miss Dewan and Miss Budden

