

Year 5 Newsletter – Spring Term 1



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the beginning of the New Year! Hopefully this newsletter provides you with a clear overview of what your child will be learning this term.

In **English**, we will be focussing on a classic novel called 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty, which focusses on a young orphan coping with life events during the Victorian era. We will be investigating the book together; practising key skills such as using inferring, clarifying and predicting events. During this unit, we will be writing: a diary entry, a setting description and editing and revising our writing by evaluating in depth. We will also be focussing on key grammar and punctuation skills. This term, we will also be putting a lot of focus on **spelling rules and strategies**.

Our **Maths** focus this half-term will include: Multiplication and division. We will be looking at strategies to multiply 4-digit numbers by 2 digits and dividing 4-digit numbers with remainders. We will also be practicing mental math strategies and arithmetic. **We will continue to have a times table test every week.**

In our topic work, our 'big question' is: What causes people to look beyond themselves to create change for the greater good?

Our **History** topic will be **The Victorians**. We will learn about significant events and people who lived and contributed to British society and the world during the Victorian era whilst also analysing the lives of children.

In **Science**, our topic will be about **Earth and space**. We will be exploring the movement of Earth and other planets relative to the Sun in the solar system. Children will learn to describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth and discuss the spherical bodies of the Sun, Earth and Moon. We will learn about day and night and the rotation of the sun across the sky.

Finally, our "big question" in **Religion** this term is: *What do Sikhs believe?* In this unit, we will investigate the significance of Guru Nanak to Sikhs and the importance of equality.

In addition to an exciting curriculum; we are participating in a very exciting Dragons Dens project in collaboration with HSBC. Children will be working in mixed groups on a

business project aimed at improving their local area every week with increasing independence. Last year was a resounding success and we expect this year that children show resilience, creativity and the ability of working with others.

In regards to the **home project**, we would like to see your child create a **Victorian dollhouse or toy as these were extremely popular and well loved by Victorian children**. There are many ideas on the web:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/victorian_britain/toys_and_games/

[http://chertseymuseum.org/domains/chertseymuseum.org.uk/local/media/images/medium/All About ... Victorian Toys.pdf](http://chertseymuseum.org/domains/chertseymuseum.org.uk/local/media/images/medium/All%20About%20...%20Victorian%20Toys.pdf)

This project is due in during the last week of term ending on Friday 14th February.

P.E. will be on **Tuesday**. Please ensure your child has the correct kit on these days. We will be doing gymnastics in the hall. Swimming will take place on **Thursday**-children must bring their kits in; if your child has a medical reason as to why they are not participating, please speak to Anna, the designated Sports Lead. Please note that swimming is a compulsory part of the PE curriculum.

Homework will be given out on Wednesdays and need to be returned the following Monday. If you would like your child to have additional homework over and above the core homework each week, please sign the slip below.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

Ms Jessica Dewan, Miss Susan Sorrell, Jo, Tam, Jaimie and Khairun.

I would like my child _____ to receive the additional homework every week.

I do not want my child to receive the additional homework.

Signature: _____ (parent/guardian)

