

Year 5 Newsletter – Spring 1

Welcome

Welcome to the Spring 1 Newsletter, Eagles Class! Last half term, we thoroughly enjoyed all of our topics and our first trip of the year. The children also loved taking part in our weekly swimming lessons; we were incredibly proud of their progress! This half term, we are equally excited for our new units. These are summarised below for you.

Reading

Across the school, we wish for all children to develop a passion for reading. We run a daily reading session in class where we explore a variety of texts and genres. We will be finishing our class read of *Space Band* before another 'battle of the books' to decide on our next text – the children are already full of suggestions! Throughout the week, all children will also have opportunities to read 1:1 with a member of staff to practise their reading fluency skills. These skills can be further developed at home by reading frequently. Whilst pursuing a love of reading, the class will also develop their comprehension skills in class. At home, asking questions about what your child has read will help to prompt discussion and aid comprehension skills too. Please remember to return school books so these can be changed regularly!



Recommended reads:

The Violet Veil Mysteries by Sophie Cleverley
Beetle Boy by MG Leonard
Boy in the Tower by Polly Ho-Yen

Writing

This half term, we will be completing written pieces based on a novel, a picture book and a short film. Our first stimulus will be the novel 'Skellig'. The children will use this as inspiration to write a house advertisement and a setting description. We will learn how to create suspense and use figurative language. After this, we will look at the picture book 'The Tin Forest'. Based on the story, the children will produce a variety of poems in different styles and a non-chronological report. Finally, towards the end of the half term, we will use the film stimulus 'LEGO Story'. The film tells the story of LEGO's growing popularity. The children will use the film to write a chronological report to tell the LEGO story.



Maths

Our next maths unit is 'Multiplication and Division'. We will be practising using the formal methods of both, working with 4-digit numbers. Having a secure knowledge of times table facts will be extremely valuable for this unit, so frequent practice of these at home would be beneficial! We will then move onto our next fractions unit, this time focusing on calculating with fractions. The children will have the opportunity to apply their knowledge from last term's fractions unit too.



Year 5 will also have frequent practice of arithmetic skills, working with numbers up to 1,000,000.

Science

In science this half term, we will be investigating materials and how we can classify using their properties. We will aim to answer key enquiry questions such as:

- Is a solid always hard? / Is a liquid always runny?
- Why are sports balls so different?
- Which is the best type of nappy to use?

The children will have the opportunity to conduct numerous experiments to test their hypotheses. Having conversations around materials outside of school will be a beneficial way to aid the children with this learning.



Computing

Year 5 will learn about spreadsheets and how to create formulae, using this to plan and organise an event. We will then learn about databases and how we can contribute to a class database. The children will use this knowledge to create their very own interactive database.



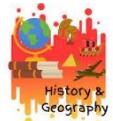
Art & Design/Design & Technology

We will be running a Design & Technology unit this half term. The children will be consolidating their prior knowledge of electrical circuits to create a circuit with a motor. Their motor will create movement to produce a 'doodler' – an item that can be used to produce a drawing. The class will then learn how to produce a 'DIY kit' (including instructions) for someone else to do the same project.



Geography/History

Our topic this half term, 'Investigating Water', is geography driven. The topic starts by focusing on the importance of water across the world, highlighting the natural water cycle. Then, our attention will turn to natural sources of water, such as rivers and waterfalls. The class will learn about the different parts of a river and how waterfalls are formed. They will then consider the impact that this has on surrounding land and agriculture.



Music

Our next music unit is based on 'Make you feel my love'. We will listen to Bob Dylan's version of the song before comparing it to Adele's. We will focus on the composition of pop ballads and develop our appraisal skills to compare the two songs. The class will also learn how to perform the songs.



PE

In year 5, we have PE twice a week. Our PE units this term are dance and netball. In dance lessons, the children will focus on choreography skills based on a specific stimulus, working as a team to develop performance skills and use a variety of staging techniques. In netball lessons, we will look at our balls skills, focussing on passing, defending and shooting. The children will then have the opportunity to showcase their skills in small matches.



PSHE

Our weekly PSHE sessions follow the Jigsaw curriculum. Our third unit is called 'Dreams and Goals'. In our weekly lessons, the class will discuss their goals for the future before conversing about how they can attain these goals. We will compare these with the goals of other cultures. Children will be encouraged to think about their ambitions and how they can support themselves and others to achieve their goals.



RE

Our RE lessons this half term explore the religion of Sikhism. We will answer the enquiry question 'Are Sikh stories important today?'. The children will learn about the Sikh religion with an open mind, considering how the religion's traditional stories are still impactful to Sikhs today.



Enrichment

As part of our topic, we will be developing our research and presentation skills. The class will have the opportunity to use reliable and informative websites and books to conduct in-depth research into the water cycle. They will then work in groups to create a presentation to share what they have learnt.



Homework Project



Here are some activities that link to our topic. If your child completes one, please bring it in – we would love to see it!

- Examine a variety of materials in your home. What state of matter are they? Can you classify them by property?
- Visit a local river and take photographs of the surrounding landscape. How does the river affect the agriculture?



Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities



Times Tables Rockstars



Spelling Shed



Rewards

The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.



Class information

Class Teacher: Miss Church

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Mitchell and Miss Minton

Please remember to name your child's school jumper or cardigan.

We request that all children bring a named water bottle to school every day and as the weather is warmer a sun hat and sun cream.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.

Dates for the diary!

Spring 1



Thursday 4th January - Training Day

Friday 5th January – Training Day

Monday 8th January – School reopens to pupils

W/B 12th February – Parents' Workshare Sessions (Maths) – days and timings tbc

Friday 16th February – school closes for Half Term