

Year 5 Newsletter Autumn Term 2013

Welcome to a new year in Year 5. Mr Mabin will be teaching 5MAB and Mr Marriott will teach 5MAR. Miss Lee will be working alongside Mr Marriott as a trainee teacher and Mr Young will be working alongside Mr Mabin. Carole James and Carol Bentley will be joining us as Teaching Assistants. Swimming and PE will be taught by Jeannette, RE will be taught by Sue Bray.

Swimming will continue until half-term and will be on a Friday afternoon.

We always need at least one parent helper for swimming so please sign up on the list on the classroom door if you can possibly help.

Games will normally be taught on a Wednesday however it is vitally important that Games kit (including trainers) is kept in school all the time.

Hair below shoulder length should be tied back at all times and if your child wears earrings they must either remove the earrings themselves for swimming, games and P.E or bring in some surgical tape and use this to cover their earrings. Please can you ensure that all school uniform is named - jumpers and fleeces in particular tend to get lost on a regular basis.



Our theme this term is Space. We will be learning about the different planets in the solar system and the children will then be creating their own new planets and a guide to these planets. In Science the children will be learning about the Earth, Sun and Moon. In DT they will be designing and building their own powered lunar rover. We will be combining music and ICT to produce a piece of music to represent their new planet. We are also lucky enough to have Mr Hickman from West Exe who will be teaching the children music on a Tuesday morning this half term.

Each class has agreed and signed a set of rules to enable all children to learn in the class, this is displayed in the classroom and all children are expected to follow these rules.

Our Home Reading programme will continue with children using Reading Passports to record their reading. Please can you sign your child's record each day. You do not have to listen to your child reading as most children will prefer to read to themselves. Please remember that time spent talking about what they have read is very important and can be included in their reading time. The expectation is that children in Year 5 should read for at least 15 minutes a night or $1\frac{3}{4}$ hours a week. By the end of this term at least 20 hours reading should have been recorded. All children will be expected to bring their Reading Passports into school at least once a week. Children have been told by their class teacher which day they need to bring their readers in. Any child not reading for at least half an hour a week will have to go to the library on a Friday lunchtime to complete their reading.

Our Literacy homework this term will be a project which is designed to develop speaking and listening skills. Your child is asked to choose a topic of interest to them and to develop a talk (lasting approximately five minutes) on the subject over the whole term. Please can you sign their homework to acknowledge the length of time (at least 20 minutes) that they have spent on



their project. The homework folder must be handed in every Monday. Spelling folders will also be coming home giving your child an opportunity to learn and use spellings in their work. Spellings will be tested on a Friday.

Numeracy homework will be given weekly and for the first half of the term will concentrate on revising times tables. Some children will learn tables up to x15. These will be tested every Tuesday.

Throughout the term many children will be taken in small groups to work in targeted sessions. These sessions are designed to enable your children to benefit from focussed attention in specific areas.

We have been very lucky in past years to have parents who are willing to come in and support reading in Y5 and we are always happy to welcome more parents although we have to ask you to ensure that your CRB check is up to date before you can join us (this can be done through the school office).

For Art Classes you will need to bring in an old long sleeve shirt (preferably a man's) so that it will completely cover your school uniform.

Please keep your apron in your locker at all times.



As the children are in Year 5, they are more than capable of putting their things in their locker on their own. Please can we ask parents to stay outside of the huts in the morning, unless you need to speak to the teachers urgently, as it becomes very congested with 60 children, teaching staff and parents all in a small space. Thank you for your co-operation.

Regards

Mr Marriott & Mr Mabin