



## Autumn 2017 in Y5/6



Welcome back! We hope you all had a relaxing and fun-filled summer and enjoyed the break! We all did. This year the teachers in Year 5/6 will be Mrs Willmott (Otters class), Mr Wills / Mrs Davies (Badgers class) and Mr Howes (Foxes class). The classes will be supported by a team of Teaching Assistants made up of Mrs Ackroyd, Miss Bennett, Mr Hughes, Mrs Jones, Mrs Macmillan, Mr Rowland, Mrs Short.

Now we're back at school, we'd like to share with you a brief outline of some of the work the children will be covering over the coming term. Where possible we have made links between subjects; for example much of our literacy and project work will centre on World War Two. We know that this cross curricular approach generates enthusiasm from the children and encourages them to extend their learning through independent work at home. There will be a focus on developing learning skills, as well as discovering facts and information.

### Literacy

We will be teaching literacy in blocked units of work, the titles of which are: Basic Skills, Narrative Poetry, Instructions, Adventure Stories and Playscripts.

Independent reading will take place daily and guided reading (around three times weekly) will develop the range of comprehension skills the children will need in later life.

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPAG) will also be taught regularly both within literacy and discreetly.

### Maths

All areas of mathematics will be covered. Teaching will include practical activities, formal methods and problem solving. The children will be offered differentiated levels of work and will be guided to make their own choices over the level of challenge they undertake.

### Science

We will be studying the unit Light and Electricity; the main focuses being how light travels, sources of light, as well as electrical circuits and their component parts.

### Other Curriculum

Our integrated, cross curricular topic is World War Two. The children will gain a general understanding of the war and learn specifically about how life was in Plymouth and for evacuees. We are hoping to visit Slapton Sands and talk to local people about their wartime experiences. We also hope to take part in the Ivybridge Remembrance Service. To make this subject relevant and relate to modern day, some links will be made to more recent conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan and the current debate regarding Syria.

Our computing unit is titled 'We are artists'; other computing will support our learning across the curriculum.

### Outdoor Learning

Wherever possible we will enhance our learning using the outdoor grounds including our fabulous yurt, nature area and raised beds.

### RE, French and Music

RE, French and Music will continue to be taught during the teachers' PPA (preparation, planning and assessment) time. The teachers will be – Mrs Macmillan – RE, Madame Corbett – French, Mrs Davies – Music

## **SMSC Learning (Spiritual / Moral / Social / Cultural) & Growth Mindset**

We will be continuing to develop our children through self-reflection and encouraging them to consider different learning approaches and how they impact on their learning. The children will also learn more about the British Values of – Mutual Respect & Tolerance, Democracy, Rule of Law and Individual Liberty.

## **What's in the News?**

As the children become older they often become aware of events that are taking place in the world. We do encourage conversations about these events with a balanced / reflective ethos.

## **P.E.**

Year 5/6 children will be doing outdoor PE including tennis, football & gymnastics plus swimming. **Please make sure the children have P.E. kits in school all week** as they are sometimes needed for other activities. We encourage the children to wear correctly fitting trainers rather than plimsolls for PE as they provide better support for their feet and ankles.

## **Homework**

General homework – i.e. Literacy / Maths / Topic will be set on a Thursday and collected in the following Tuesday, giving teachers enough time to mark the children's books, before returning them with new homework. On most occasions homework will be related to work completed in school. Spelling will be set weekly (on a Monday) with a week to learn; they will be recorded in planners. Please ensure you continue to hear your child read from a range of sources – the internet, comics, brochures as well as fiction and non-fiction books and comment regularly in their planners.

## **Dressing Up!!!**

Here is your advanced notice ... for the Slapton trip we will be asking the children to dress up! For this visit we would like the children to wear suitable battle attire – combats, camouflage clothing, green / brown colours etc, this will help with our re-enactment work of the Normandy landings. The children will be videoed and will be given the opportunity to view this.

## **Film Consent**

To enhance the children's learning we often find it useful to show clips / entire films to understand how atmosphere is created or to demonstrate life in a particular era. Often these are not rated **U**, thus we ask your permission to show such films. We would like to assure you that any material used, has been viewed by staff first and checked for suitability. We ask that if you have any queries, or do not wish your child to see these materials, that you let us know. If we hear nothing, we will assume that this is OK.