



SPRING 2018 in Y5/6



Happy New Year from the Y5/6 Team

Welcome back again! We hope you all had an exciting, enjoyable and fun-filled Christmas! We all did. Last term was certainly busy and the children had some wonderful experiences, ending with their amazing performance of We'll Meet Again!

Now we're back to 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. Please note that due to testing and SATs in May, there will be a heavy emphasis on maths, literacy, reading and science this term.

As always, if you would like to volunteer to help in class or have resources you think would be useful, please let us know.

Literacy

We will be teaching literacy in blocked units of work, the titles of which are: Traditional Tales, Journalistic Writing, Sci-Fi and Persuasion.

Reading will be daily and will develop the range of comprehension skills the children will need in later life. Grammar, punctuation and spelling will also be taught regularly.

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 units The Earth & Beyond and Light; the main focuses being light and shadows, the eye, the sun, Earth and moon, the solar system, stars and the constellations.

Other Curriculum

Our topic title this term is Abracadabra – It's Magic! This will be a science based project. However there will be opportunities for art work and integrated computing. We hope to have a night walk to study the stars and constellations.

Outdoor Learning

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

SATs Booster Groups

Additional booster sessions for maths / reading / writing will be given to some children in year six to support them in preparing for their forthcoming tests.

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

P.E.

Year 5/6 children will be doing both indoor and outdoor PE. **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.

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, with a focus on growth mindset. 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.

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.

Planners

Please ensure your child has their planner with them at all times. Of late many children have failed to have these in school. Planners are a vital tool for communicating information – e.g. every Friday the children are given an update on what's coming up in the following week.

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. These are not always rated **U**. 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.