

# Class 5 Newsletter

## Welcome back!

We hope you have all had a fantastic festive break!

You will find detailed below all relevant information about what the children will be learning up until the February half-term holidays.

## Core subjects

In Maths, we will be introducing more multiplication and division strategies. Decimals and fractions will also be a focus this half term. Overall, we are heavily focusing on deepening children's understanding through the use of explanations to encourage children to justify, why and how they got the answer, instead of solely providing a written calculation.

In English, we have more opportunities to produce some excellent writing, linked with the new class novel: *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q Rauf, a heart-warming and humorous tale of a child's perspective on the refugee crisis. Firstly, we will be writing an information text all about The Rookeries, which will be created by each individual pupil. Other writing opportunities will include writing a narrative and a poem.

Having begun our Science topics by learning about our solar system and how light works, we are now focusing on Life Processes and Habitats. There will be lots of opportunities for the children to carry out their own scientific investigations, from inspecting the parts of a flower, researching the role of each individual aspect to creating artwork to display the life-cycles and reproductive cycles of various organisms.

## Wider Curriculum

In History, we will be transporting the children all the way back to an important time during Britain's history: World War II. We will be focusing upon the key events of the war and looking in particular at the impact that war had upon children. We'll also discuss how Anne Frank's story is still so relevant today.

In Art, we will be evaluating surrealism and offering the children the opportunity to experiment with oil pastel techniques.

In DT, we will be testing and evaluating how materials react to severe weather. This will feed directly into children's designs for a humanitarian shelter kit.

In Music, Carole King's 'You've got a friend' will be learned whilst children investigate pitch, rhythm and pulse in selected pieces.

In Computing, the children will be learning all about webpages, what makes them good/bad, ultimately designing and creating their own webpage to a specific brief.

In PE, we will be taking part in functional fitness and athletics sessions. These continue to be linked with the Pontefract Academies Trust competition calendar.

Finally, in French, we will be learning key vocabulary relating to travel and allowing the children to hear, practice and use this vocabulary to enhance their understanding of the French language.

## Homework

We will continue to distribute homework to your child on a Friday and, as previously, this is expected to be completed and handed in no later than the following Thursday.



## P.E.

- Year 5 P.E days will be a **Monday** and **Wednesday**.
- Please ensure your child has their full P.E on both of these days.
- Please ensure your child has a water bottle in school, learning is thirsty work!

## How you can help your child:

- Please ensure your child is practising their times tables as often as possible.
- Please ensure that your child is encouraged to complete their homework on a weekly basis.
- Please ensure that your child is at school on time **every day**.

## Key dates:

- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January, Drug Awareness talk.
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February, school closes for half-term.