

Year 5 Autumn Term Curriculum Newsletter 2019

Welcome to Year 5! We hope you have all had a lovely summer and that your child is enjoying the start of an exciting year. Welcome to our new families as well. We are glad you have joined us here at St Lawrence. We see Year 5 as being a year where the children develop in both confidence and independence and we really want to encourage this. Please support them by helping them manage their time and equipment effectively. This newsletter will give you an idea of the work that we will be covering this term in Year 5. If you have any particular interest in an area outlined below, or you would like to come in and share experiences or resources with the children, it would be very much appreciated.

English

English is differentiated according to the children's needs and abilities. Our topics tie in with the National Curriculum and include a range of genres, including reports, poetry and play scripts. Wherever relevant, we will link our English to our Greek topic, such as studying Greek myths and writing and debating around the Greek philosophers. The curriculum has a particular focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar so this will continue to be integrated into all of our lessons. Children will receive a set of spellings to learn from our new scheme we are using, Spelling Shed. These will be a mixture of the spelling rule we are focusing on and words from the statutory word lists. The expectation for reading is still that your child reads with an adult on a daily basis and that their home/school contact book is signed every night. This will be checked every day and children will be asked to stay in at lunch time to read if they have not provided proof from home.



Maths

We are continuing to implement the maths mastery style of teaching this year. The main focus this term will be number knowledge and application. In all units of work, there will be an emphasis on real life application and solving problems using mathematical skills and reasoning. The expectation is that children know ALL their times tables (including 12s) by the start of Year 5, so please help your child by learning and practising tables at home regularly. We will continue to use Mathletics, our online mathematics programme at school and we will expect the children to use it regularly at home too. Mathletics certificates are awarded from Monday morning to Sunday night. Points are reset on a Sunday night. We will also be setting some homework tasks. The children will get weekly maths homework in addition to Mathletics.

Science

Our topics this term are Materials and Forces. The children will be learning about different materials and their uses. We will also be looking at different forces and why they are important. We will be planning for investigation for the children to gain a practical insight into our topics.

Computing

The first half term focus in the Computing curriculum will be coding. The use of laptops and tablets is embedded across the Year 5 curriculum with a focus on research skills and internet safety.

After half term, the children will be learning about graphical modelling using a programme with a variety of activities.

Art/ Design & Technology

This term, we will be looking at and designing Greek pots inspired by the Ancient Greeks. Alongside this, we will look at pottery created by Grayson Perry. In DT, we will be creating oat based breakfast foods to encourage a healthy eating lifestyle.



R.E.

Children will learn about the beliefs held by Christians and compare these with other faiths. We will also be posing the question, "What is wisdom?" (and discussing how Greek philosophers would reply!) and asking the children to reflect on what is special about Christmas.

Topic

Our History topic this term is The Ancient Greeks. We will be looking at what life was like in Greece nearly 3,000 years ago and studying some key events from that time. The children will also learn about their lasting legacy to the modern world, such as Greek political systems, architecture and language. We are currently arranging a trip to the British Museum to see some original Greek artefacts.

Physical Education

Children will continue with swimming lessons in Year 5, with Toucans Class going this term. We would appreciate your support with walking to and from the pool so please let the office team know if you are available to help. Tennis and crazyball will also be developed during indoor and outdoor lessons. Please make sure your child has a full P.E. kit in school every day, including sturdy trainers, tracksuit bottoms and sweatshirt. Earrings cannot be worn during these sessions, so please make sure that they are either not worn or that your child can remove them unaided.

Music

Using the Music Express scheme of work, children will be exploring rhythm and pulse and perform in rounds. They will have an opportunity to use a range of pitched and non-pitched instruments and also sing and perform as a whole or in parts. Parrots Class will have their ten flute sessions this term.

Homework

In addition to spellings, times table practise and daily reading, children will be expected to complete two pieces of homework a week. English/Science/History and Maths will be given out on a Thursday and expected back in the following Wednesday. We expect the children to spend between one and two hours a week on homework (not including their spellings, reading and times tables).

Life Skills (PSHCE)

These lessons have a focus on new beginnings and discussing how we can work well together and learn well. Through stories, discussion and role play, children will develop an understanding of how they reflect in their day to day education. We will continue to learn about British Values.

French

We will continue to follow the programme of mainly speaking and listening activities, using the online programme Rigolo. Amongst these activities, the children will be learning how to describe others and how to tell the time.

Weekly Diary

Monday- Spellings given out, Parrots Flute

Tuesday- Quetzals/Toucans/Parrots PE

Wednesday - Toucans and Parrots PE

Thursday - Homework given out (expected back the following Wednesday),

Friday - Toucans swimming, Parrots/Quetzals PE.

We are looking forward to working in partnership with you, to provide a fulfilling, fun and progressive year for your child. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns (preferably not before school, unless urgent).

Mr Davis (Toucans)

Ms Scanlan (Parrots)

Miss East (Quetzals)