

Monday 5th September 2016

Dear families

Firstly I would like to extend a warm welcome back to school this year after a well-earned break for everyone! New beginnings for the staff in Class 5 and the children moving to Upper Key Stage 2; how exciting! A key date to put in your diary is **Year 5 Curriculum Evening next Tuesday 13th September at 3:30pm**. Please come along to find out about your child's busy year ahead.

This term is going to be both busy and exciting:

English: we will begin the term by looking at stories with issues and dilemmas using 'The Balaclava Boys' and 'Boy Overboard' as stimulus. We will then be linking the English curriculum to our topic work in geography where the children will be writing reports on animals and biomes of their choice. Children will continue to receive a sentence of the week which will be tested on a Monday. I cannot stress enough the importance of learning these – they will contain key spellings and punctuation marks which they must know in order to achieve the required standard for year 5.

Encouraging your child to read as much as possible is also important; we will be taking in reading records every Monday and encouraging the children to have read at least 5 times a week at home.

Maths: we will be revisiting all key areas of the maths curriculum starting with place value and then moving on to calculations. We will have a times table test every Friday focusing firstly on times tables, then division facts. When these have been mastered, children's wider mental maths skills will be challenged to encourage quick and accurate strategies.

Science: this term we will be looking at living things and their habitats and making links with literacy and our topic work. The children will be developing their scientific skills, planning enquiries and recording data. We will then be looking at the life processes of reproduction in some plants and animals and looking at the changes as humans develop from birth to old age.

Topic: we will be studying geography this term and looking at the Great Outdoors. This will include the geography of rivers from source to sea and will include some local mapping and field work. We will be using atlases to locate rivers around the world and look at mountains and valleys. We will also study the water cycle and look at caring for the local environment, global pollution issues and global warming.

RE: our focus will be stories of faith; what can we learn from the stories shared by Muslims, Christians and Jews? Music will be taught by Mrs Bristow who has organised another exciting project for this term (more details to follow) and **P.E.** will continue to be supported by our sports leaders. Please ensure children always have the correct kit in school – we will be outside as much as possible!

Art: we will be studying the artists Georgia O’Keefe and Goldsworthy, using natural objects to make art, and in **DT** we will be exploring healthy eating and researching, designing and making soups. **French** will continue on Wednesday mornings and the children have an exciting new **Computing** curriculum to follow which involves becoming game developers and of course looking at E-Safety.

Homework will be given on Friday and due in on Wednesday, alternating between Learning Logs and maths and English, as well as key spellings.

Bikeability starts on 17th October until 20th October. Further information will follow. If you have any questions or queries about the year ahead please do not hesitate to ask or make an appointment to see me after school. Mrs Anderson, Mrs Baker and myself are all very much looking forward to our exciting year ahead with your children.

Mrs Bastin, Mrs Anderson and Mrs Baker.

<p>Year 5 Curriculum Evening</p> <p>I will/ will not be attending the curriculum Evening on Tuesday 13th September at 3:30.</p> <p>Name _____</p>
