

Supporting Your Child in Year 5



Spring Term 2023

I hope you had a fantastic Christmas break and are ready for a new term at school!

English

In English this term we will be focusing on persuasive writing, developing our writing skills within persuasive formal letters and campaigns.

Our second half term will see us learning to write to inform where we will learn to develop our skills in writing biographies and recounts.

Throughout this term, we will continue to develop our understanding of grammar and punctuation, in particular starting to look at more complicated sentence structures and use of more sophisticated punctuation.

Maths

In maths we will cover lots of areas this term. We will begin with Multiplication and division, learning long and short multiplication and division. We will then move onto fractions where we will learn to multiply fractions and finding fractions of numbers. This will flow nicely into our decimal and percentages unit where we will look at converting between them, rounding, ordering, and comparing. We will finally be looking at perimeter and area, learning to find the perimeter and area of rectangles, rectilinear shapes, polygons, and compound shapes.

History

Our curriculum continues to develop a whole host of subjects. Our second history unit this year will be 'Crime and Punishment'. Here we will be learning all about types of crime and punishment in Britain from the medieval ages, through to the Tudors and Victorians, and how these have changed as we have come into the 21st century. We will learn about all sorts of methods of punishment that have been used over time and the justice systems criminals faced!

Science

This half term, our focus will be on 'properties of materials' where children will learn about different classifications of materials, doing all kinds of experiments to evoke their curiosity, finding out why some materials are better than others for uses.

PSHE

Our theme for this term will be "citizenship". Within this topic we will learn about the law and the consequences of breaking the law, the importance of our rights, protecting the planet, or societal contribution, pressure groups and what parliament is. The second half term, we will look at Economic Wellbeing. We will be developing our understanding about income and expenditure, borrowing, risks with money and stereotypes in the workplace.

Music

In music this term we will be ballads with the song 'Make you feel my Love' at the centre of the unit. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other ballads. Our second half term see us listen and appraise rap music. This topics focus song is 'The Fresh Prince of Bel Air'. Again, this topic will see us learn, play, improvise and compose our own rap songs.

Personal Growth

This first half term we are going to look at the topic 'Colours of the Rainbow' which looks at diversity. We will be developing our understanding of how everyone's life may be different, our understanding of growing up in different backgrounds and countries and our understanding of why some believe it is important to have a strong cultural belief.

The second half term will see us look at the topic of 'Food Glorious Food' where we will investigate sustainability, and developing our knowledge of nutrition and enjoying food, our understanding of diet and nutrition and our understanding of food for special occasions.

RE

RE this half term, we will focus on Christianity, answering the question: What kind of King is Jesus? We will learn about who Jesus was, what qualities he showed, what he wanted his kingdom to look and be like and how this compares to the world around us.

The second half term will focus on Judaism, learning about different types of Jews, their traditions and lives, whilst answering the question: Why is the Torah so important to Jewish people?

British Values/Everyone is Welcome

We will continue to learn about different British values (democracy, individual liberty, mutual respect, tolerance and the rule of law) this term, though not only dedicated lessons but the broader curriculum too. Our focus value will be Individual Liberty.

Within our Everyone is Welcome lessons, we will celebrate differences, encouraging no outsiders. We will look at books, 'Mixed' and 'How to Heal a Broken Wing'

VIPERS

This term we will be developing our reading comprehension through VIPERS lesson (Vocabulary, Inference, Predict, Explain, Retrieve, Sequence/Summarise). We will not only be learning how to answer each question style, structuring clear and well-written answers, but we will also be doing VIPERS talk where we will discuss our answers with our peers. Our book in focus will be the London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd.

Spanish

In Spanish this term, we will be learning about the Weather. We will learn vocabulary to describe weather conditions and apply this to certain days, which will accumulate in us creating our own weather forecasts!

Our Second half term, we will learn about the Romans, learning how to tell somebody in Spanish the key facts and key people and inventions involved in the history of the Roman Empire. We will learn how to say how the days of the week link to Roman gods and goddesses and what Roman times were like for rich and poor children.

PE

Year 5 have Tennis on a Tuesday, Swimming Wednesday, Basketball on Thursdays and Running on Fridays. Children will need to ensure they are wearing the appropriate PE kit. A small reminder that during PE sessions, hair needs to be tied back and all jewellery must be removed, including earrings.

Art and Design

In our first half term, we will be refining our art and design skills. We will be developing drawing, design, craft and art appreciation skills; exploring two different printing techniques, using 2D shapes to explore a variety of media, mixing different shades of one colour and discussing the work of artist Louis Wain.

In the second half term, we will be studying Architecture in art and design. We will learn to draw houses from observations, focusing on what the house looks like rather than what they

want it to look like. We will expand on these drawings, creating monoprints and Hundertwasser-esque houses. Using all this knowledge, we will then have a go at being an architect, as well as monument designers where we design to commemorate.

Homework

The additional homework is aimed to help the children prepare for the amount of homework given in year 6. This term I will set it on a Friday, in for the following Friday. Spellings tests will be on a Friday. The homework should not be too tedious for the children, with you all doing so well last term, so lets keep it up!

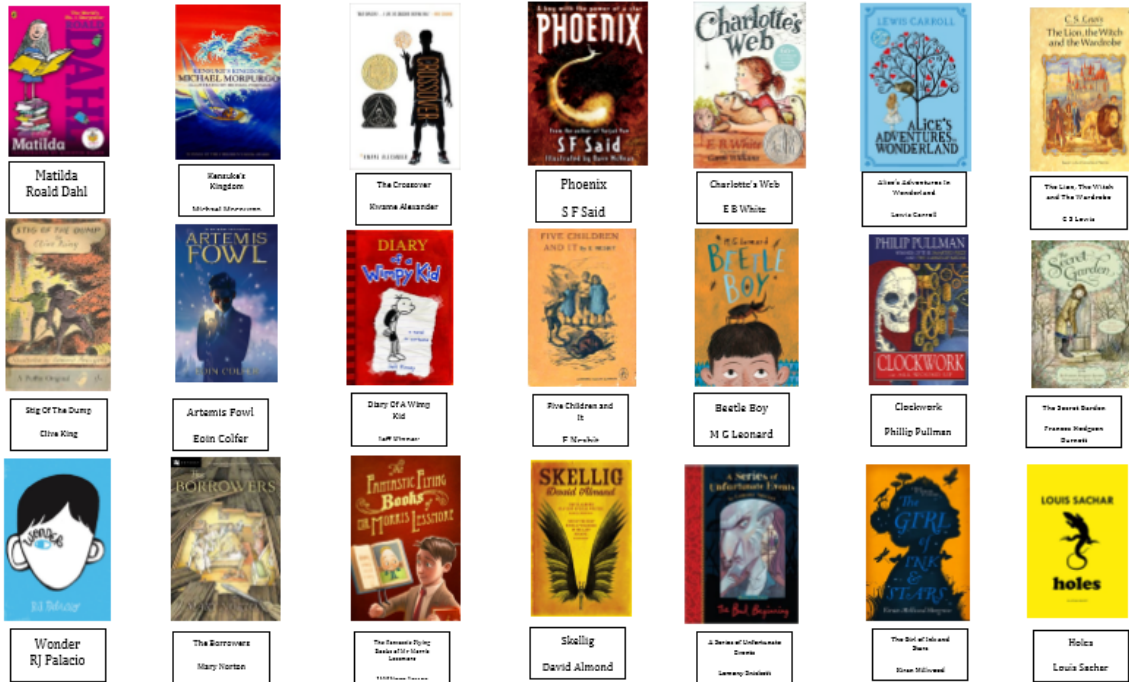
It is then up to the child to manage their own time in order to handing it in the following week where it will be marked in school.

Home Reading

I cannot reiterate enough how important reading is – both at home and at school. As children progress into KS2, they become fluent readers but we need to continue to develop this by exposing them to more challenging books with wide vocabulary in. Still listening to even those extremely confident readers is important as it is a change to identify words mispronounced or discussion of new vocabulary. And remember, reading at home = points which = prizes

Recommending Reading Books

As your child grows in confidence with their reading, it is essential that they are given the opportunity to read a wide variety of book. Why not try some of the books below which are some of the recommended books to read in Year 5 and 6



Suggested Author:

We have our Author of the Month Display in the classroom and we will see a variety of authors over the next few months being highlighted, including Onjali Q. Rauf, Sharna Jackson, Jason Reynolds and Benjamin Zephaniah.

Useful resources to get your children writing

- The Literacy Shed is a fantastic website with a range of different stimulus to encourage children to write. Let your child explore and write a range of different genres.
<http://www.literacyshed.com/>
- I also would advise using films that your children enjoy watching. Get them to re-write the story from a different character's point of view, write a diary entry based on one of the events, or even create a movie trailer, using iPads and other technology

We ask that you support us by listening to your child read whenever possible as this will help support the comprehension work in class. This includes questioning the children as they read to you. There are a variety of different question types you can ask: -

- Open ended questions – encourage children to give a range of responses and shows their deeper level of understanding.
- Literal questions – encourage children to recall facts or make simple comprehension where the answer is clearly stated in the text.
- Higher order questions – are excellent to challenge and move able readers on. They encourage children to think beyond what is written in the text.

Supporting your child with maths

When adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators you need to make the denominators the same.

$$\frac{4}{5} + \frac{2}{3}$$

Find the lowest common multiple

Lowest common multiple = 15

Turn both fractions into a fraction with the same denominator

$$\frac{4}{5} + \frac{2}{3} = \frac{\quad}{15} + \frac{\quad}{15}$$

Then I would see how many times 5 and 3 go into 15

Then in multiply the top number by the same as the bottom

$$\frac{4}{5} + \frac{2}{3} = \frac{12}{15} + \frac{10}{15} = \frac{22}{15}$$

I then look if I can simplify or turn into a mixed number.

Other activities you could use to support your child in maths:

- Kaboom – a game which can be used to practice their times tables. Ask your child to show you how to play this game – we have been using it lots already this term.
- Snap for equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages.
- A Pack of card fractions. Play in pairs. Each person picks two cards: one would be the denominator and one the numerator. Pairs compare. Highest fraction wins. This could be adapted to simplifying fractions or turning fractions from improper to mixed numbers. The opportunities with packs of cards are endless. Try typing it into Google and see what variations you can find.

For the confident mathematicians

For those children who are extremely confident with maths, I would advise them to start to use these skills on a mastery level, solving a range of puzzles and problems. The nrich, NACE and nctm websites provide a range of different activities.

Encourage your child to create problems which involve working systematically. Get them to create problems for you to solve.

They also need to develop their ability to reason. Use problems like the one below to encourage them to prove a theory right or wrong.

Other techniques I use for this include...prove it; always, sometimes and never true and odd one out.

Finally, encourage children to find mistakes in calculations and give advice on how the mistake could be corrected.

Across Glenmere and in class we are really working on encouraging good manners: holding doors for others, allowing others to pass by, remember our pleases and thankyou's. Points will be awarded on class dojo for these, so if you notice they have been awarded points for this, please do ask your child what it was for and continue to reinforce this at home as well!

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to come and speak with me at the start or end of the school day or via class dojo

Many thanks,
Miss Pickering