

Supporting Your Child in Year 5



Autumn Term 2022

I hope you had a fantastic summer break and are ready for the new year!.

English

In English this term we will be focusing on informative writing, developing our writing skills within newspaper reports and non-chronological reports which will link to our History topic- 'Invaders!'.

Our second half term will see us learning to write for entertainment where we will learn to develop our narrative and description skills. We will have a focus text called "I survived- the destruction of Pompeii, AD79" which links nicely to our geography topic of 'Extreme Earth'.

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 punctuation.

Maths

The main focus this term will be number, including the four operations, understanding how to use written methods with accuracy. On top of this, we will be having a huge focus on multiplication facts. This is such an important skill and will make other areas of the curriculum a lot easier.

As well as this, there will be a particular focus on times tables with regular multiplication work being set on Times Tables Rockstars. The importance of timetables is incredible, especially preparing for Year 6. Knowing these with speed and fluency makes the rest of maths that little bit easier.

We will begin to look at using addition and subtraction within fractions as well.

History

Our curriculum continues to develop a whole host of subjects. Our first unit this year will be 'Invaders'. Here we will be learning all about the period in time when the Romans left Britain and the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings invaded. Year 5 will be learning about the battle for kingdoms during this time, Alfred the Great and The Battle of Hastings.

Science

The first half term is 'forces' where children will learn about gravity, water and air resistance as well as levers and pulleys. A lot of this will involve practical activities and there will be a big focus on fair testing. The second part of the term is 'Earth and Space' and the science behind it, including learning about the sun, Earth and moon and how they relate to each other as well as day and night and how the Earth moves – plus more.

Our second topic will be 'Space and Earth' where we will learn about the solar system and its planets and their movement relative to the sun. We will also learn about the moon as well as bust some myths about day and night!

Design & Technology

In DT this term, our focus area will be Textiles. We will be looking at different types of stitching and how these help us to manufacture our very own stuffed toys! We will go through the whole design process, through the actual making of the toy with lots of hands-on activities, to the evaluation of our finished product. Of course, children will also get to bring these home with them once finished!

Music

In music this term we will be classic rock music with the song 'Livin' on a prayer' 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 classic rock music. Our second half term see us listen and appraise jazz music. This topic has two focus songs: 'Three Note Bossa' and 'The Five Note Swing'. This topic lets us delve deeper into our understanding of instruments and how they create different dimensions within music.

PSHE

Our theme for this term will be "Being Me in My World" and it will be a great way to start the year as we set ourselves goals for the year which we will reward ourselves with once achieved, how our behaviours can affect groups and how being a responsible citizen can help group processes, whilst also studying democracy. The second half term, we will look at celebrating our differences. We will look at cultural differences and how this sadly can cause racism and bullying. However, we will learn how to enjoy and respect other cultures and their values.

RE

RE this half term, we will focus on Islam, and what it means to be a Muslim in Britain today. We will make connections between Muslim practice of the Five Pillars and their beliefs about God and the prophet Muhammad, whilst also studying the significance of the Qur'an and the function of the mosque in the beliefs of Muslims. The second half term will focus on Christianity, learning what Christians believe Jesus did to save people, especially focusing on Holy Week.

Personal Growth

This first half term we are going to look at the topic 'The Right to be Me', investigating both our human rights and our moral responsibilities. In year 5 more specifically, we will be learning about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and how this should be upheld and defended by citizens, societies and governments. We will investigate current and historical human rights issues, linking with National Holocaust Memorial Day. The second half term will see us look at the topic of 'Value of Money?' where we will investigate and compare internet and mail order shopping through lessons involving credit, global trade and pensions.

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 is Beowulf by Michael Morpurgo, which links nicely to our Invaders topic!

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, through not only dedicated lessons but the broader curriculum too. Within our Everyone is Welcome lessons, we will celebrate differences, encouraging no outsiders. We will look at books like 'Kenny Lives with Erica and Martina', 'Rose Blanche', 'Mixed' and 'And Tango Makes Three'.

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.

Spanish

In Spanish this term, we are looking at a new set of sounds (Ga, Ge, Gi, Go and Gu). We will also learn how to ask 'Do you have a pet?', learning the vocabulary to learn different types of pets, as well as the language to say "I have" or "I do not have". We will also learn to use the connectives "and" and "but" to expand our answers.

Our Second half term, we will learn how to say the date in Spanish, learning how to say the days of the week, months of the year and numbers 1-31, as well as how to say when their birthday is.

Art and Design

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.

Geography

Our geography topic during the second half term is Extreme Earth. We will look at the structure of the Earth and its' tectonic plates and how when these move some catastrophic things can happen! We will learn about the impacts of earthquakes and volcanoes, how some effects are positive and some very, very negative, depending on the place they occur. Our case-study for this topic is San-Francisco

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 Monday, in for the following Monday. Spellings tests will be on a Monday. I hear the class were excellent at the spelling shed – so let's be sure to keep it up. I will also be setting weekly times tables. Children should have their login for Times Tables Rockstar.

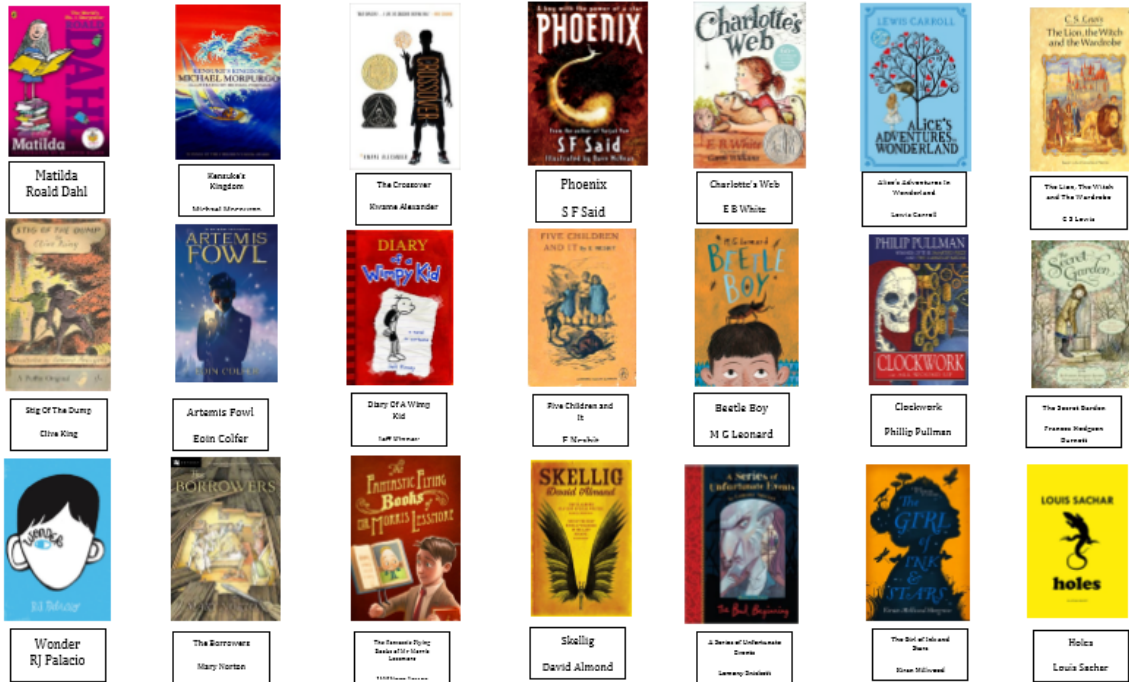
It is then up to the child to manage their own time in order to handing it in the following week where it will be marked in school.

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 recently been reading Brightstorm by Vashti Hardy. Vashti Hardy has written a number of books within the Brightstorm series including Dark Whispers, Wild Spark and The Griffin Gate. Why not try one of these at home?



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