



Year 5 Summer Term Update

A Message from the Class Teachers

As we begin the final term of Y5, the year group can look back with pride over two terms of growing and maturing. This term is all about consolidating their learning and setting up the children to be as prepared as possible for Y6. We have had a great year together and are impressed with the progress that has been made.

Just a reminder that homework is set every Monday and due every Sunday by 8pm. This includes Maths set on LBQ and Spelling set on Spelling Shed. The children will also bring home a sheet to help them to practise both spelling and handwriting. Homework Club is every Wednesday lunch time. They should also be aiming to read for at least 20 minutes a day and continue to retain their confidence in times tables. We appreciate all of your ongoing support at home.



During Writing lessons we are currently building up to writing a speech on the topic of 'Refugees: an issue for society'. We have explored the structure of a speech and will consider the use of language for impact. This links perfectly with our aim to improve Oracy skills and the children will be given the opportunity to read out their speeches. We will then move on to learning about Journal writing through a unit entitled 'Mars Transmission', linking back to a previous Science topic on Space. Our final unit will focus on balanced arguments based on the subject of 'Screen use'. During the summer term there will also be a whole school celebration of poetry.

We will continue to develop our deeper comprehension and inference skills in Reading lessons.

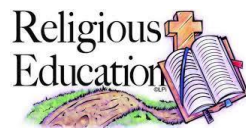


The final leg of our Y5 maths journey will move on from Shape to Position and Direction. Another trip to the land of Decimals will be followed by some work on Negative Numbers. We'll end with Converting Units before an area Y5 are experts at. Volume.

We'll continue to do weekly arithmetic tests, 30 mins each week to do a 40 mark assessment. Usually, 30 of those marks are Y3,4&5 questions, with another 10 "super bonus" questions to stretch those who are up for an extra challenge.



Our science topics this term will see us finish off our unit on forces, before looking at Living things. We'll also look at Animals including humans which is the unit which includes discussions about changes from birth to old age, including puberty.



Our two topics for this term are “Salvation” and “Kingdom of God”. During our RE lessons we will be focusing on the big questions: “What do Christians believe Jesus did to save human beings?” and “What Kind of King is Jesus?”. We will also be exploring what it means to be a Global Neighbour.



This term we are going to be exploring local history and using our knowledge of previous time periods to support our chronological understanding. We are also going to be researching how the market place in Durham City has changed over time and evaluating its uses both in the past and the present. In this topic we will be using a range of historical sources to help us understand the local area and its history, such as census data, church records, trade directories, books and photographs.



This term we are looking at mapwork. We will extend our knowledge of Ordnance Survey symbols and plan routes using maps. We will interpret contour lines, layer shading and spot heights on maps to understand how landscapes are represented.



Following on from our exciting term of violin and concentrating on ensemble performance, in the Summer term we will be exploring more improvisation and composition skills. We will be introducing some new notation of the staff including sharps and flats. We will also be continuing to develop listening and performing skills using more complicated rhythmic patterns building on the syncopated beats previously learned using single, tied and dotted quavers.



Our next art unit is: Sculpture: Interactive installation. In this unit we will be exploring how artists use space, scale and materials to create installation art that conveys ideas, transforms spaces and shapes the viewer's experience. The children will have the opportunity to create their own installation using a range of recycled materials.



This term in PE the children will be building on their fielding, batting and bowling skills before applying them to game situations. They will also be running, throwing and jumping their way through a unit of athletics.



Having finished their games, Y5 will create an advert to promote it, write some theme music for their game, practice typing skills and then look at some Digital Literacy skills including password safety and why things which are put online are often there forever.

French

In French this term, we will be looking at the world. We will focus on the continents, French speaking countries and landscapes. We will also look at various flags of french speaking countries. We will revise/recap the numbers 1-30 and the phonics É & È. We will finish the year by describing in depth the characteristics of a particular french speaking country.



We will complete the remaining two puzzle pieces from our Jigsaw curriculum this summer term. The first puzzle piece is 'Relationships'. Children will learn about the importance of self-esteem and ways this can be boosted. This is important in an online context as well as off-line, as mental health can be damaged by excessive comparison with others. This leads onto a series of lessons that allow the children to investigate and reflect upon a variety of positive and negative online/ social media contexts including gaming and social networking. They learn about age -limits and also age-appropriateness. Within these lessons, children are taught the SMARRT internet safety rules and they apply these in different situations. Risk, pressure and influences are revisited with a focus on the physical and emotional aspects of identifying when something online or in social media feels uncomfortable or unsafe. Children are taught about grooming and how people online can pretend to be whoever they want. Rights, responsibilities and respect are revisited with an angle on technology use. Screen time is also discussed and children find ways to reduce their own screen time. This Puzzle aims to help children to be more discerning when viewing anything online or on social media.

The final puzzle piece we will look at is 'Changing Me'. In this Puzzle, the children revisit self-esteem, self-image and body image. They learn that we all have perceptions about ourselves and others, and these may be right or wrong. They also reflect on how social media and the media can promote unhelpful comparison and how to manage this. Puberty is visited, explaining bodily changes in males and females. Sexual intercourse is explained. Children are encouraged to ask questions and seek clarification about anything they don't understand. Further details about pregnancy are introduced including some facts about the development of the foetus and some simple explanation about alternative ways of conception, e.g. IVF. Children learn that having a baby is a personal choice. Details of contraceptive options and methods are not taught as this is not age-appropriate. Reasons why people choose to be in a romantic relationship and choose to have a baby are also explored. Children look at what becoming a teenager means for them with an increase in freedom, rights and responsibilities. They also consider the perceptions that surround teenagers and reflect whether they are always accurate, e.g. teenagers are always moody; all teenagers have a boyfriend/girlfriend, etc. Children will always be given an opportunity to ask questions and seek reassurance, particularly if anything is worrying them.

If you have any concerns, then please do not hesitate to get in touch with the Year 5 team.

Yours sincerely,
Mr Brookes, Mrs Donaghy and Miss Richardson