

Year 5 Summer Term Update

A Message from the Class Teachers

As we approach the final few weeks of Y5, the year group can look back with pride over two terms of growing and maturing. The next few weeks are all about setting up the children to be as prepared as possible for the adventure that is Y6.

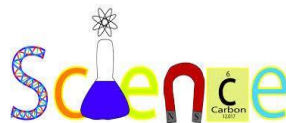
Just a reminder that homework is set every Monday and due every Sunday by 8pm. Homework Club is every Wednesday lunch time.



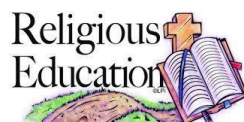
We've started to explore the poem "The Highwayman" by Alfred Noyes and will be using it as inspiration for our own narrative poems. Alongside this, we'll be finishing off our gripping novel "Boy in the Tower", by Polly Ho-Yen. Following on from this, we'll be diving into the world of Jamie Drake, the star of "The Jamie Drake Equation", by Christopher Edge. A veritable literary feast for the whole year group.



Having conquered statistics and shape, we'll be moving on to more geometry in the shape (pun intended) of Position and Direction. After this, we'll be taking on everyone's favourites: Decimals. We'll have a jaunt through Negative Numbers, Converting Units and Volume to end the year.



In Science we will be looking at properties of materials. This will include looking at the different states of matter and how different things affect them. We will look at irreversible changes such as baking/cooking and burning. We will also be finding out how invisible ink works and how that could help spies. We will compare irreversible changes to reversible ones such as freezing, evaporation and condensation. We will also find out how the properties of different materials can be useful when choosing a material for a specific task.



Our two topics for this term are "Gospel" and "Kingdom of God". During our RE lessons we'll be focusing on the big questions: "What Would Jesus Do?" and "What Kind of King is Jesus?".



This term we are going to be exploring some local history. We are going to be thinking about how the market place in Durham City has changed over time and evaluate its uses now and then. We will be using a range of historical sources to help us do this such as census data, church records, trade directories, books and photographs. We will also have a visit from a member of our local community who can tell us more about how the market place has changed in their lifetime.



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.



Y5 will continue to revel in Mrs Woods company as we explore different areas of music. More catchy earworms guaranteed (sorry!).



Computing lessons will focus on advertising the Y5's games using ICT skills, before delving into some Digital Literacy. This will include looking at spam and discovering why things you put on the internet may last forever...



The final outcome for this summer term is the children's completion of their 3D perspective drawing in a surrealist style with watercolour paints inspired by the artist JS Lowry and the evaluation of their work. In preparation for this, the children have been introduced to the concept of one point perspective and have produced a physical mood board taking inspiration from the key concepts of Surrealism and New York City's landscape.



We are continuing our textile's unit this term, the children will design and make a Bushkiri Bag. Children will decide upon the design criteria for the bag by considering who will use it, where it will be used and what for.



We're hoping that we have some great weather during the Summer Term so that our PE lessons can be outside as much as possible. With that in mind, it would be helpful if children can have a sun hat / cap and sun cream with them.

The children will be learning some striking and fielding skills which they will then be able to use in some small games of cricket. In addition to this, they will be exploring different ways of running, jumping and throwing in an athletics unit.

French

The children have loved using Languagenut to help them with their linguistic skills. We'll be looking at numbers, temperature and that most English of topics - The Weather.



We will complete the remaining two puzzle pieces from our Jigsaw curriculum this summer term. The first puzzle piece is 'Relationships'. Children 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.

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

Yours sincerely,

Mr Brookes, Miss Newton, Miss Richardson and Mrs Curtis