

Year 5 Spring Term Update

A Message from the Class Teachers

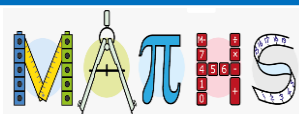
We are looking forward to an exciting Spring Term in Year 5. The Easter Service will be performed by Year 5 this term which we are really looking forward to. We are also very lucky to have been invited to Durham University for the afternoon to take part in a workshop led by their student orchestra!

As normal, homework for the children will be set every Monday and is due the following Sunday by 8pm. The children are encouraged where possible to complete their homework by Friday so that they can enjoy their weekends. Homework expectations are as follows:

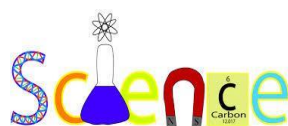
- At least 20 minutes of reading per day
 - 3x Mathematics tasks
 - 1x Spelling Shed task
- Lexia (only applicable if your child is currently working through the programme)



During Writing lessons we will be exploring Anthony Browne's *King Kong* and using the story as a basis for writing a newspaper report and a persuasive advert. We will also enjoy the story during our Reading lessons and continue to develop our comprehension and inference skills. Later in the term, we will read *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers* by Mordicai Gerstein and write a biography on the author's life. During Reading lessons, we will explore a range of non-fiction texts and begin a new novel, *The Boy in the Tower* by Polly Ho-Yen.



Maths this term has started with a return to multiplication and division before we look again at everyone's favourite - Fractions! We'll be using our multiplication and division skills to multiply and divide fractions. After this, we'll take a sidestep to the world of decimals. During the spring term, we will also be studying Area and Perimeter before looking at Statistics.



During the Spring Term, we will be exploring the topic of forces including gravity, friction, buoyancy and air resistance. We will identify all the forces acting on objects and investigate how air resistance affects how different sized parachutes fall to the ground. We will collect and analyse data and use this to create graphs. Later in the term, we will be studying the topic of Animals Including Humans, which will involve looking at the development of humans from birth to old age.

This term will begin with the topic 'God'. We will explore different beliefs regarding the nature of God. This is followed by the topic 'Salvation', with a focus on what Christians believe that Jesus did to save humans.



This term, we are beginning our study of the Ancient Maya. Our work in lessons will aim to answer the question: What was similar and what was different about people making history around the year 1000? The aim for this unit is for the children to study a non-European society that contrasts with British history. We will achieve this through a comparative study of the achievements, housing and religious beliefs of the Ancient Maya and the Vikings.



Year 5 will learn about **mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes**. They will consider the importance of plate tectonics in exploring their location and features. They will find out about settlements in mountainous regions and the impact of earthquakes and volcanoes on people's lives. They will find out about the significance of Mount Everest.



This term we will be exploring hip-hop music in our topic *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*. We will enjoy listening to songs from the genre and finding out more about this style of music.



This term we will continue working on our Banksy project to create a piece of graffiti artwork. We will then evaluate our own artwork and think critically about our work alongside other artists'.



This term the children will be researching freestanding structures and how to create their own marble run. They will be focussing on modelling and joining techniques using a range of different materials. Some excellent examples of structures for children to research and talk about would be roller coasters, bridges and theme park rides.



This term will be using Scratch to create the platform games which the children have planned. They will be using all of their skills and knowhow which they've built up so far this year to create fantastic games, before beginning the process of evaluating their games and the marvellous work of others.

French

We will continue to study French this term. We will be learning how to talk about where we live while enjoying learning through the games and vocabulary tasks, which all the children love!



The children will further be developing their skills and understanding of games through tennis and badminton. Can they transfer skills from one game to another? They will also have the opportunity to enhance their communication and teamwork skills through some fun physical challenges as part of their Commando Joe's unit.



Jigsaw Jez will be helping us to 'Celebrate Differences' during our PSHE lessons this year. The children have responded brilliantly to all the work we've done since we started our Jigsaw scheme of work and PSHE has quickly become one of the lessons the children look forward to most.

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

Yours sincerely,

Mr Brookes, Mrs Milligan, Miss Richardson and Miss Fahey