



Happy, Healthy and Fulfilled



Dear Families,

Welcome to the start of the new academic year. I am very much looking forward to teaching your children this year and watching them grow whilst developing their learning and independence. I hope they too are looking forward to a hardworking but enjoyable year in our Year 5/6 Class. Following what has been a number of months of uncertainty, I am aware that children may be feeling anxious about their return to school. Please be reassured that it is my priority to ensure that all children feel safe, happy and secure in their learning environment, my classroom.

I would like to provide some information regarding this term and points to note as we progress through the academic year.

Mathematics

During the course of the Autumn Term, in our main mathematics lesson, we will be covering the essential areas of place value and calculation (these areas underpin and support other skills and contexts within mathematics). In our additional maths time (Daily Maths Meeting), we will address areas with highlighted gaps in knowledge and understanding from ongoing assessment within class. These daily sessions will reinforce prior learning and build on this to ensure children cover learning that would ordinarily have taken place in the latter half of last academic year. At times, they will also be used to consolidate areas of learning covered last year before our main maths teaching and learning focuses on these areas again for their current year group.

A sound understanding of times table facts (multiplication and inverse division, factors and multiples, and square numbers) is vital for learning in Mathematics so supporting your children to ensure they know all of their tables well would be much appreciated.

English

During the course of the Autumn Term, in our main English lesson, we will be covering the following genres:

- Narrative
- Persuasion (article)
- Report

In our additional English time (Daily English Meeting), we will be covering areas highlighted as gaps in knowledge and understanding from the ongoing in class assessment. These sessions will again consolidate and extend the children's prior learning to allow them to progress towards the expectations of their current year group in our main English lessons.

To support from home, please ensure your child has opportunities to read and also discuss what they have read in order to support their understanding of texts. Practising reading does not always have to involve books, it would be more beneficial if children had opportunities to practise reading in other ways – magazines, newspapers, brochures, leaflets, instructions, etc. When reading at home, if your child is unsure of a particular word or phrase, discuss the meaning, how it is used, if it can be used in multiple ways etc. This is important as research has shown that children who have a rich, wide and varied vocabulary understand the meaning behind texts (using inference and deduction skills) much better than those children with a limited vocabulary.



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Our Curriculum

During the first half of the Autumn Term, Year 5/6 will focus on the geographical question:

“Why did the Romans come to our shores?”

In the second half of the Autumn Term, the focus will be the historical question:

“Why did the Romans leave our shores?”

The foundation subjects (art/dt, music etc) will be taught throughout the topics across the term.

PE

Class PE sessions will take place on a Wednesday afternoon. Children need to **come to school dressed in the appropriate PE kit every Wednesday**. In Autumn term, our focus will be games – the fundamentals of movement through sport. These sessions will be outdoors, where possible.

Religious Education

The focus for RE teaching and learning for the first half term will be ‘What can we learn about religious diversity in our area?’.

Homework

A letter about homework will be circulated to parents on Friday 11th September.

I hope this provides you with some insight into what your children will be learning this term and I hope that we can work together to ensure the best education for them. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me through the school office.

Many thanks,

Mrs Appleby