



Kestrel Class

Autumn Term Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to a new school year. This letter outlines what we will be learning this term. We hope you find the following information useful.

MATHS

We will be studying the following units in the Autumn term:

Place Value

Addition and Subtraction

Statistics

Multiplication and Division

Perimeter and Area

Maths Target

During Autumn term, Year 5 will be working on a multiplication Maths target. The expectation is that all children will be able to quickly recall multiplication and related division facts up to 12x12. Some children will extend their knowledge to include deriving related facts involving multiples, decimals and squares of numbers. Each week we will work on a different multiplication table which will be tested the following Monday morning. Please check your child's homework diary for more information.

ENGLISH

Autumn 1 – Fiction Genres – Stories from other Cultures

We will be reading stories from different cultures in shared and guided reading sessions. Writing activities will come from these stories and will include character studies, summaries of stories, writing in role as characters from stories and writing missing parts of stories in the style of the author.

There will be a strong focus on using basic punctuation accurately. This includes capital letters, full stops, question marks, exclamation marks, commas in lists, inverted commas and apostrophes for both contraction and possession.

Autumn 2 – Non-fiction texts

We will be identifying a range of non-fiction texts and considering the features of these text types. We will then focus on formal letters, information texts and instructions. We will look at model texts in our English lessons. Writing activities will often be linked to our History topic about the Maya Civilisation.

We will move on to using more advanced punctuation: parenthesis, commas after adverbials and to separate clauses, and colons. Once new punctuation has been

taught and practised, opportunities will be given for children to use this in their own writing.

Autumn English Target

Accurate use of punctuation will be our target for this term. The expectation is that all children will be able to use basic punctuation (capital letters and full stops, question marks and exclamation marks, commas in lists and inverted commas and apostrophes for contraction and possession) accurately in extended pieces of writing. Some children will begin to use more advanced punctuation in their writing.

SPELLING

Over the coming terms Year 5 will be looking at and learning words taken from the Year 5 / 6 Statutory Word List. In addition to these words the children will focus on spelling rules and patterns for Year 5.

Autumn 1 – Spelling rules

Words ending in -cious or -tious

Words ending in -cial or -tial

Autumn 2 – Spelling rules

Words ending in -ant,-ance / -ancy, -ent,-ence / -ency,

Words ending in -able and -ably

Words ending in -ible and ibly

HISTORY

Our History topic for the term is the Ancient Maya Civilisation. We will be considering the following questions:

- Who were the Maya?
- Where did they live?
- When did they live?
- How did they live?
- What happened to them?

COMPUTING

Computing lessons this term will begin with revision and consolidation of word-processing skills. Children will be taught how to use the Internet safely and will have opportunities to use the internet for research, often linked to our History topic. Research will be presented in different ways. We will also do a Coding unit of work.

SCIENCE

Our Autumn Science topic will be Space and Earth. We will be learning about our Solar System:

- Describing the movement of the Earth, Moon and other Planets relative to each other and the Sun.
- Investigating shadows to explain the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain night and day.
- Making observations and exploring the phases of the moon.

RE

Year 5's focus religion is Sikhism. We will be comparing the beliefs, rituals and practises of the Sikh religion to Christianity. Looking at symbols and their meanings as well as the main festivals of Diwali and Vaisakhi.

PSHE

These lessons will be linked closely to our school values but will also include topics such as:

Rights and Responsibilities in School.

Freedom - Rights and Responsibilities.

Getting on and Falling out.

Say No to Bullying.

Photo Captions - Challenging Stereotypes.

ART / DT

Linked to our Autumn topics, Art and DT will include:

- Space painting (mixed media, artist study).
- Shadow art (art element).
- Moon Buggies (junk modelling).
- Ancient Maya tiles (clay relief work).

MUSIC

We will be following the Norfolk Music Hub's Scheme called Charanga. For Autumn 1 the Year 5 unit is 'Livin On a Prayer' with a focus on Rock Anthems. After half term we will be looking at Jazz and Improvisation.

PE

This term we will be learning and having fun with some socially distanced games which, hopefully, the children can adapt and play during their break times.

Homework

This year we will be easing into our homework routine gradually. To begin with, we would like all children to read daily and keep a record of this reading in their reading record book (more information below). There will also be facts to learn in preparation for a weekly multiplication test. Children may use Times Tables Rockstars to support this.

When we feel the children are ready, we will move towards the following homework timetable:

As a general rule, the following homework will be set:

- **Monday – Multiplication tables and related facts**
This will be multiplication and division facts to learn in preparation for a test on the following Monday.
- **Wednesday – Topic/Literacy Task**
This will be a research or Literacy activity to be handed in on the following Monday.
- **Wednesday – Maths**
This will usually be a maths worksheet to be handed in on the following Monday
- **Thursday – Spelling Task**

The children will have one week to practise their words and complete a spelling activity.

In addition, children are expected to read regularly at home. There is a selection of books in our class library for children to borrow. They are welcome to read suitable books from home if you are happy for them to bring these books to school. All children have been given a reading record book. We would like them to record dates and page numbers, with an occasional comment about what they have read. Once a book is completed, children need to write a book review. Please refer to guidance at the front of the reading record book for help with this. This needs to be checked by us before selecting a new book. Please monitor your child's reading, either listening to them read or discussing the story – characters, setting, plot etc. Again, it is important that this reading record book and reading book is in school daily as there will be opportunities during the day for reading.

If you have any questions or concerns that you would like to discuss, we will be having a virtual 'Meet the Teachers' on Tuesday 22nd September at 11.45 a.m. We will talk through routines, procedures and expectations. We both look forward to meeting you then.

Mrs M. Willrich and Mrs J. Whittle

Kestrel Class Teachers