



Year 5 Spring Term News



Dear Year 5 Parents, Carers and Friends,

Welcome back, I hope you have all had a safe and relaxing Christmas break and New Year. I hope you and your children are looking forward to this term, I know I am.

Our main topic this term will be World War 1 'Would you go over the line?' <https://www.google.ie/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwiRyJvW7qvRAhXEaxQKHSxfCWQQjRwIBw&url=http://olvschoollibrary.weebly.com/ancient-egypt-pathfinder.html&psig=AFQjCNHPk3L7RMyq5M09XxVrCAFsA9nIeg&ust=1483735245294129>

Here is an overview of our subject focuses for the term:

PHSE / JIGSAW - For the first half of the term our JIGSAW topic will be 'Dreams and Goals'. In this topic the children will look at how to keep going when they find something challenging, and how to have a positive attitude. In the second half term Year 5 will be focusing on the topic 'Healthy me'. This theme is about making healthy choices, eating a balanced diet and staying active.

English - This half term we will be using the book 'Wolves in the Walls', written by Neil Gaiman. The children will use this book to write a descriptive narrative. They will start with drama activities and then move on to learning how to write sentences with a variety of conjunctions, fronted adverbials and embedded clauses. Once their writing is complete, they will share it with Year 6. After half term, we will be studying the poem Dulce et Decorum Est by Wilfred Owen where we will be creating powerful and emotive performance poems to share with our peers. We would also love for you to come and see the performances. I will send out a letter with more information closer to the time.

Maths - This term we will be focussing on four areas: Division, Word Problems, Statistics and Fractions. There will be a heavy focus on the children using and applying their maths, learning to solve problems and puzzles in different ways and showing their reasoning skills by explaining their ideas by using mathematical language. Mental strategies including times tables will be practiced daily so that they are able to accurately and rapidly recall them. A child's mental ability is essential for their mathematical development and therefore your continued support with this at home is greatly appreciated.

Science - In Science we will be looking at Properties and Changes in Materials. We will be looking at different materials, their uses and their properties, as well as dissolving, separating mixtures and irreversible changes. The children will sort and classify objects according to their properties. They will explore the properties of materials to find the most suitable material for different purposes. The children will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate the best thermal insulator to make a lunch box, making predictions and forming conclusions. Furthermore, they will have chance to find the best electrical conductor, in the context of making floodlights brighter. They will have the opportunity to work in a hands-on way to explore dissolving, identifying the different

variables in their own investigations. They will find out about different ways to separate mixtures of materials, using filtering, sieving and evaporating.

Physical Education - The children will continue to have 2 hours of PE a week with lessons being on a Thursday and Friday. We will be doing Physical Literacy on both days. Please make sure children have the correct PE uniform.

Computing - In the first half term, we will start by develop the children's understanding of the importance of staying safe online and then moving on to improving our knowledge and understanding of computer systems. Following this, we will be looking at programming and creating our own quizzes.

Art, Design and Technology: For the first half term, our art will be closely linked to our topic. We will be focusing on the skill of painting. The children will be exploring how we can show mood through our paintings by experimenting with different colours and shading, studying World War 1 artists such as artist Paul Nash. In the second half term, we will be moving onto creating 3D trenches. In Design technology we will be creating WW1 sweetheart pin cushions and cooking some recipes from the war.

History/Geography - This term we will be looking at World War One. This half term the children will find out about the main causes of World War One, who was involved, why people joined up and what life was like in the trenches. After half term, we will be looking more at what life was like for the people left behind, the role of animals during World War One and how the war ended.

RE - During RE lessons, the children will be looking at Christianity - Why do Christians believe Jesus is the Messiah? And Judaism - Why is the Torah so important to Jewish people?

Music: Our music lessons will be focused around our topic of WW1. As a class we will be developing an understanding of the music before and during the war and then using this knowledge and understanding to improvise and compose our own pieces of music.

French: This term we are very fortunate to have the French Experience, which will start after half term. I will send out further information about this.

Home - Learning

Home reading - A child continuing their reading development at home makes such a difference to their attitude towards reading and to their reading progression. Although many of the children have developed their reading to the point where decoding words is much easier, it is still vitally important that they are able to read to an adult regularly. This will help your child to develop their pronunciation, confidence and give them the opportunity to discuss what they have read. Year 5 also have access to Reading Plus, which they are expected to access at home. This will be monitored by myself.

Spelling - In class we will be revising previously taught spelling rules and learning a new spelling pattern or rule each week from the Year 5 curriculum. It would be fantastic if you

could continue this at home. Your child will be given a set of spelling lists that they are aiming to spell correctly as soon as they can. There are also lots of ideas for fun, easy games that you can do at home with your child to help make spelling fun and memorable. We will be testing the children on these spellings half termly.

Maths - Learning rapid recall of number facts is an essential part in becoming a confident mathematician. Children need to learn these facts and be able to recall and apply them. Year 5 are expected to use TTRockstars. Each session needs to be for a minimum of 15 minutes. It has been proven that short sessions have more impact than a longer session.

Other

Uniform reminder: Unless children have a club after school or it is a PE, children are expected to be in their school uniform.

Also, please ensure that your child brings a coat and water bottle to school **every day**.

As always, please see me with any questions or queries.

I look forward to working with you and your child in Year 5

Kind regards,

Mrs Audrain

