

# WELCOME TO Y5 and Y6! Spring Term

Happy new year! We hope you have all had a good break and are ready to come back to school. We know how hard you have been working this year, so we want to continue to support you as best as we can. You will receive information about whole school issues through school newsletters, but we also wanted to send you some extra information about Class 11 and 12 through a newsletter - so here is the update for Spring Term. Feel free to pop into our classes if you feel you need more information or to have a look at your child's work. Thanks so much,  
Mrs Ryan/Mrs Wilson and Mr Barber/Mrs Horner

## English

This term we will start by looking at the excellent letter, *My Wish For You*, written by Michael Morpurgo. The children will think about how they want to change the world, using skills such as using conjunctions, adjectives and adverbs. We will move on to read the story of *Pig Heart Boy* by Malorie Blackman. We will write our own stories, using formal and informal language and try to use multi clause sentences. This term we will also write a non-chronological report all about our school dog, Teddy, and debate the need for climate change. In our reading sessions we will practise comprehension skills to help our understanding of a text and work on improving our inference and retrieval from texts, We will continue to take spellings from the Year 5 and 6 lists to practise each week.

## Maths

Maths this term begins with a big focus on conversion between fractions, decimals and percentages. The children will learn the relationships between the different numbers and begin to convert between them quickly and confidently. Times tables and mental arithmetic will continue to be practised daily to improve our rapid recall skills. Please support your child in learning all of their times tables - a secure knowledge will make KS2 maths much easier! The main areas we will cover this term are:

- Decimals
- Percentages
- Algebra
- Measurement (Converting Units)
- Measurement (Perimeter and Area)
- Ratio

## Science

Year 6 will begin by looking at different living things and habitats that animals have. We will think about how animals adapt to the habitats that they have and how animals and plants can be classified. We will move on to electricity - making and creating our own circuits. Year 5 will be looking at the properties of different materials. What makes a material good for different purposes? We will then be moving on to look at the wonder of space and how our solar system operates.

## RE

The first RE topic is called 'Sources' and looks at the Bible and scripture. We will think about how we find out about God and how we can use different sources to decide how to live our lives. The second part of the term we will move on to look at 'Unity'. We will think about how we can be united together as Christians and also as a community regardless of our backgrounds. The final topic of the term is called 'Death & New Life'. We will look at the death of Jesus and how we are called to new life through His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

## PE

In P.E the children will learn all about tag rugby. The children will build on their teamwork skills and learn how to throw, catch and dribble confidently.

Lessons are brilliantly delivered by Mr Poole and Mr Carroll, our expert PE coach. PE is on a Friday so remember to have PE Kits in school (white tops/black shorts and trainers). We will also be having some dance sessions with Urban Kaos, which are on Thursday mornings (every fortnight). We will be learning how to control our bodies and move to music.

## Computing

We will cover two computing topics this term, the first is called 'Creating Media'. We will look at how technology is used to create models. For our final piece of work we will be using the new 3D printer! The second topic is 'Data and Information', where we will learn how to use a spreadsheet.

## Geography

Our Geography topic is called 'We're the Kids in America' and we will be taking a look at the geography on North and South America. We will look at maps to look at where some of America's mountain ranges and rivers are, research some of the climate that you will have to live with in different parts of America! We will move on to consider the impact of climate change on coastal regions and compare America to some places closer to home. We will think about how Christopher Columbus travelled from Europe to America and create our own timeline of American history.

## French

Children in year 5 and year 6 will study French culture and traditions which take place on the feast day of 'L'Epiphanie'. They will learn about La Galette Des Rois. The first half-term has a focus on French phonetics and pronunciation so that children can apply their knowledge about language to unknown vocabulary to improve their reading skills. The 2nd half-term focuses on 'Moi Dans Le Monde'. In this unit children will learn about the many countries in the Francophone World and how they can help to protect our planet.

## Homework

Children in year 5 and 6 are required to do homework almost every night. The amount of homework given is carefully thought out and should never take more than one hour to complete. Included (each night) in this is 20 minutes reading. They should spend 10 minutes on tables and 10 minutes on spellings and x tables which are set each week. Thank you for your support. Each week children will have a grammar or maths task to complete for the following week.

In the Spring term we will be starting homework club to give extra support to the Year 6 children. More information will follow.

## Art, Music and D&T

Art this term will be creating our own magnificent Manga artwork. We will be learning how to work like a cartoonist and create pictures in our own personal 'manga' style.

In music we will be learning to play 'Bacharach Anorak'. We will be building our knowledge of musical notation and learning how to play notes on the glockenspiel.

Our D&T project is to make some food to deliver to the needy in the community. We will be measuring, mixing and baking on our own, so learning to be accurate will be very important!