**Welcome to Year 5 Spring **

Dear Parents,

The children in Class 10 have settled into their new classes extremely well, and are becoming familiar with new routines. The Upper end of KS2 is an exciting and busy place to be, and so we want to support you in every way we can. You will receive information about whole school issues through school newsletters, but we also wanted to send you our own information about Year 5 through a newsletter so here is the first one of the year. If you have any questions or concerns please don’t hesitate to come and speak to us.

Thank you,

Mrs Pollard, Mrs Colley and Miss Hendry

Maths 

The children love daily Maths lessons and rise to the challenge of timed tests. We are focusing on the four basic number rules so that we can use and apply them to all maths’ topics. Times tables and mental arithmetic will be practiced daily to improve our rapid recall skills. In Year 5 we expect children to know all their times tables. Weekly ‘times tables tests’ will be completed on a Friday. Please support your child in learning all of their times tables –you could quiz them on the way to and from school! Maths homework will be set every week on a Friday. The main areas we will cover this term are:

• Multiplication and Division

• Fractions

• Decimals and percentages.

RE

The focus of this term’s R.E work is all about preparation for Easter and the sacrifice Jesus made for us. Our topics are Mission, Memorial Sacrifice and Sacrifice. We will learn to make links between the scripture and the call to holiness, whilst developing our religious vocabulary. Using paintings, we will look at how symbolism is used and make inks to other paintings. We will also look at key figures in the church’s history such as Mother Theresa and Maximillian Kolbe and discuss the sacrifices they made for others.

English 

This term, our English will be linked to a variety of texts and videos including The Alchemist’s letter and topical subjects. The writing genres we will be looking at are letter writing, newspaper reports and procedural instructions.

In our reading sessions, we will practise comprehension skills to help our

understanding of a text. Grammar,

punctuation, spelling and handwriting will be practiced daily in class.

Children will be moving away from using simple sentences and look at extending sentences to create more complex and interesting sentences.

Finally, we will be encouraging all children to speak clearly in full sentences. This will help children speak confidently in front of their peers and to perform their Haiku poems.

Science

We will begin the year studying Space! We will look at our brilliant solar system and how scientists discovered the world wasn’t flat and how Albert Einstein discovered gravity. Children will link their science and art together by drawing and sketching phases of the moon.

The children will be doing lots of experiments, scientific thinking and working as scientists. They will have to predict results, experiment, draw results and finally present their findings.

PE

Our P.E lessons are delivered by Mr Poole and the children will learn the rules of tag rugby. The children will build on their team work skills from last year. This will take place on a Tuesday afternoon. Children will also learn why P.E is so important and the effects that exercise has on the body.

We will also have dance with Urban Kaos on a Wednesday morning.

As the weather becomes warmer please make sure children have an appropriate P.E kit including dark tracksuit bottoms, shorts, a white top and a zip up jacket. Thankyou.

Geography 

We will be improving our knowledge of locations in Geography. We will locate National Parks on maps and look at that key features of a National Park. We will also compare a National Park in the U.K to a National Park in North and South America, we look at the difference in climates and regions.

Art, Music and D&T

These areas of the curriculum will be linked mainly with our History, Geography and English. Children focus on an art based on European landscape.

In D and T, the children will be creating air rockets! They will have to design and build an air rocket that can travel the furthest and explain why that happened.

Computing

We are very busy in Computing this term because we are completing a lot of research on our Topic subjects and Science using the iPads. We will be becoming code breakers and using green screen to create a newsroom background to tell the world our newspaper reports.

Please encourage safe internet use at home and good and legal use of social networks.

History

We are really looking forward to learning all about the National Parks and why they are so important to the U.K. We will focus on how National Parks have developed over time and what impact they have on our lives.

Homework

Children in year 5 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 15minutes reading. They should spend 10 minutes on tables and 10 minutes on spellings which are set each week. In addition, one week there will be English work and the subsequent week Maths homework. Reading plus needs to be completed one night at home however children have the option of completing extra vocabulary lessons if they would like to. As always, thank you very much for your wonderful support!

**Important Dates!**

**February half term – Friday 18th returning Monday 28thFebruary Easter holidays – Friday 8thApril returning Monday 25th April**