



Welcome to 5B!

Autumn Term Newsletter



ENGLISH

Reading: This term we will be focusing on longer fiction books. We will be reading *Room 13* by Robert Swindells, *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty, *Boy* by Roald Dahl and *Farther* by Grahame Baker-Smith. Children will be asked various questions that require them to retrieve information, predict, summarise, infer, explain and compare. Children will be allocated different texts on Bug Club. Please access these texts at home with your child.

Writing: children will be writing both fiction and non-fiction texts this term. We will start off writing a narrative followed by autobiographies, biographies and journal writing. Later in the term we will focus on playscripts and poetry.

Grammar: This term we will look at adverbs to show degrees of possibility, modal verbs, the verb 'to have', present perfect form, past tense and past perfect tense.



MATHS



We will be learning how to read, write, order and compare numbers to 1 000 000. We will add and subtract whole numbers with more than 4 digits using the column method. We will round decimals with two-decimal places to the nearest whole number and answer multi-step problems.

We will multiply and divide numbers mentally and using formal methods. We will learn about multiples and factors, prime and composite numbers and square and cube numbers. We will look at equivalent fractions, write decimal numbers as a fraction and multiply and divide numbers by 10, 100 and 1000.

We will convert between different units of metric measure, such as kilometre and metre and gram and kilogram. We will use addition and subtraction to solve money problems. We will learn how to find the area of rectangles and estimate the area of irregular shapes.

Integrated into every area are reasoning and problem solving tasks, which encourage children to use and continue developing their problem solving skills.

RE

The RE syllabus requires us to teach across a range of religions with a weight of two thirds Christianity to one third other faiths. This will give an enriched experience to the children and will offer opportunities to discuss, question and draw their own conclusions, embedding and deepening their own personal faith. The topics covered this term are 'Understanding faith in the community (including Buddhism)', 'What do the Monastic traditions within Christianity show us about living in community?', 'Do art and music convey Christmas?', 'What does it mean to be a Muslim?', 'How do "Bishops in Action" help lead the Anglican church?', 'What happens in churches during Lent and at Easter?', 'How has the Christian message survived for 2,000 years?' and 'The journey of life and death (including Hinduism)'.





TOPICS

We are doing a short topic called 'Brainwave' to start our year off. This topic is about our brains and how we learn. Following this we will be studying a topic called 'AD 900' which looks at the Mayan and Benin civilisations and the rise and fall of the Islamic empire. During Autumn 2 our topic is 'Space Explorers' where we will discover our solar system and the deeper mysteries of the universe.

SCHOOL TRIPS

Drama Hut – AD900 performance (at school)

Thursday 27th September (FREE)

Trips relating to 'AD 900' and 'Space Explorers' will be finalised shortly.



HOMEWORK

There will be 2 pieces of work going home with your child every week – a literacy task (some weeks this may be a topic task) and a maths task. These should take your child 20-30 minutes each.

This will be sent home each Friday in their Homework books and are to be returned to school the following **Wednesday**.

All spelling lists will be sent home at the start of half term. Spelling tests will happen every Friday at school.

Offer your child help with their homework if needed but also please give them the chance to complete the work independently.

WHICH DAY?



Wednesday – Homework due
- PE with coaches

Friday – Swimming (swimming kit needed)

- Diaries returned – please ensure your child is reading every day. This reading should be recorded in their diary and signed by an adult every week. Children can either read books from school or books from home.
- Spelling test
- Homework and spelling sent home



HOW TO HELP



Reading: Children are encouraged to read a variety of genres including non-fiction and poetry for pleasure. Please encourage your child to find books that interest them and read them together.

Writing: Encourage your child to write whenever they want to! This could take any form they like, including lists, letters, postcards, stories, notes, cards, facts, etc. and this can be on paper or on a computer. Don't forget to talk about punctuation, interesting vocabulary and joined up writing.

Maths: Help your child learn their tables. These are so helpful in all forms of maths! Play maths games with your child and give them plenty of opportunities to solve word problems with an emphasis on explaining their reasoning. This can be done in the supermarket, while cooking, watching TV etc.