

Spring Term - Year 5



Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome back to school and the new term. We hope you have had a lovely Christmas and New Year. This is just a reminder about a few things and to tell you about what has been planned for your child this term.

Topic

Our main topic this term is entitled "Kensuke's Kingdom". As always, we will be working in a cross-curricular style, linking subjects together as much as possible. During this topic, we will look at climate zones around the world; identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, the Equator, the Northern Hemisphere and Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, the Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night); identify the continents of the world plus label the layers of the Earth, understand what a volcano is and identify the 'Ring of Fire'.



English

In English, we will use the text - Kensuke's Kingdom - to follow Michael's route around the world and base our work on his experiences. We will be writing descriptively about events that occur on his journey, a newspaper article, a persuasive advert, a balanced argument, a non-chronological report plus we will explore Haikus, a short, Japanese form of poetry.



Practical information

The children should arrive at school by 9 am but are encouraged to come in at 8:50 am as early morning activities will help them to settle quickly and get their brains in to action!

It is important for children to drink water throughout the day. Therefore, children may bring in bottles of water each day so long as the bottle has a secure lid. It is also really helpful if every bottle is clearly labelled. Please can you remind your child to take their bottle home every night for washing and refilling.

PE

Our PE lessons will remain on a Monday and Friday this term but may be changed from time to time. Therefore, could you please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school every day. Kit should be taken home over the weekend to be washed. Tracksuits may be sent in if the weather is cold. Could you please make sure that your child has appropriate footwear for these lessons. It is not safe for your child to participate in PE lessons in their school shoes/boots. Children should not wear any jewellery during these lessons and all earrings must either be taken out or covered with micropore tape provided by you.

Brass Instruments

For the next ten weeks, Year 5 will be receiving tuition for a brass instrument, beginning 12th January. Every child will have the opportunity to practise their instrument at home after a loan agreement has been completed. (Further details to follow.)



Homework

A few reminders about homework. My Maths homework will be set online every Friday to be completed by the following Friday. Spelling homework will be given out on Fridays to be completed for the following Friday. Guided reading homework is given out on your child's guided reading day and should be returned by the same day the following week. Although children in Year 5 are encouraged to read independently, I would urge you to continue listening to your child read whenever possible as fluency is an essential part of reading and helps comprehension.



Planners should be in school every day and children are encouraged to make comments about what they are reading in them. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate in contacting us or you could leave a note in your child's planner. We will check each child's planner at least once a week on their guided reading day.

We look forward to a fabulous spring term with you and your child. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Miss McArdle, Mrs Ling and Mrs Bundy

