



# Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter

October 2015

Dear Parents

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Our topic for the final part of this term will continue to be all about 'Exploration.' As with our other topics, we will be exploring this theme through the majority of our lessons for the next few weeks up until the Christmas period.

Please do check your emails for updates from the class teachers and admissions office. We try to keep these emails to a minimum so please note down any important changes or additions when you receive them.

Our blog is constantly being updated so please keep checking it to find out what your child is getting up to at school. Homework will continue to go onto the blog every Friday so there's no excuse to miss out on all the great stuff that we will be doing in Year 5 this term!

## CURRICULUM INFORMATION

### MATHS

In the subject area of Maths, pupils will use their understanding of place value to mentally multiply and divide whole numbers. When solving number problems, we will use a range of mental methods of computation with the four operations, including mental recall of multiplication and quick derivation of corresponding division facts.

Pupils will be taught to recognise approximate proportions of a whole and use simple fractions and percentages to describe these. Pupils will also use and make geometric 2-D and 3-D patterns, scale drawings and models in practical contexts. They will also choose and use appropriate units and tools, interpreting, with appropriate accuracy, numbers on a range of measuring instruments.

Pupils will generate and answer questions that require the collection of discrete data which they will record using a frequency table. Pupils will group data in equal intervals, represent collected data in frequency diagrams and interpret such diagrams. We will construct and interpret simple line graphs.



## ENGLISH

In English this term, we will be learning how to write narratives and how to write persuasively.

Through these styles of writing, there will be a greater focus placed on children using the correct grammar, tenses and punctuation. We will also encourage children to extend their writing either through a wider range of vocabulary and subordinate clauses.

We will continue to teach our children a wide range of writing features including how to use metaphors, personification and onomatopoeia and ensure that all children understand the purpose of what they are writing and how their writing style has a direct impact on the reader.

To help our children achieve this, it is crucial that they are exposed to a wide range of texts and continue to develop their love of reading, as this is their main source of new vocabulary. This is also something that you can really help with. Please encourage your child to read as much and as regularly as possible and if you can, encourage them to read a wide range of books too!

## THEME

In our theme lessons we will continue our studies of 'Exploration'. We will start by learning to read maps and take compass readings. The children will then be able to apply these skills during a real life orienteering experience.

By analysing the life of Francis Drake, the children will then be able to develop their historical enquiry skills. They will use range of sources to develop their own opinions as to whether he was a hero or a villain. They will then justify their opinion to an audience. Our final focus for the term will be to investigate African land exploration. We will be finding out about the lives of important explorers such as David Livingstone, as well as which countries colonised Africa and why.

## ICT

Within ICT this half term we will continue to develop our coding and programming skills using the Scratch application. Further aims of this unit will be to learn to think creatively, reason systematically, and work collaboratively.

Year 5 will also focus on collaborative learning applications on the iPads this half term. Programmes such as Padlet and Onenote will be used to share, build and present knowledge and understanding.

## MANDARIN

Beginner: Pupils are expected to be able to read and speak some simple Chinese words or short phrases in the topic of school, locations, classroom language and actions. Their Chinese character writing skills will continue to be trained in order to write the certain words in Chinese. They will also learn more Chinese radicals, which will help them to analyse the meaning of some words.



Intermediate pupils will learn more vocabularies and sentences to improve Mandarin essay writing. They will study more chapters which include 《铜钱的响声》、《一件好事》、《骑楼下》 and 《听鱼说话》《肥皂泡》. Through these chapters, they will learn to identify the main sentence and the underlying meaning of the articles. They will be encouraged to do group topic research by using technology and write their critical opinions as an essay in Mandarin.

Lower Intermediate: Pupils are going to continue to expand vocabularies about talking “Sickness”, “School and subjects” and “Stationery”. An increasing focus will be placed on how to comprehend a Chinese passage and produce short paragraph. They will be more confident to use Mandarin fluently in real life.

Advanced: pupils are going to learn some Chinese idioms and fable stories. Through these chapters, they are able to guess the vocabulary’s meaning directly from the passage, find out the main sentences in order to understand the central meaning of the story. After that, they are able to create a story about animals and share with the classmates.

#### SPANISH

This half term we are going to focus on Module 2 En el Instituto – ‘school.’ Pupils will learn vocabulary for school subjects, saying what they do in lessons, how to describe teachers and people and finally vocabulary for snacks.

We are also going to produce a video for the Global Campus languages competition in which pupils will play the role of teacher and pupil by using vocabulary already learned last half-term.

We will finish this half term by learning about Xmas traditions in Spain.

Grammar: We will use the basic forms of the present tense for verbs estudiar, comer and beber; understanding difference between verbs -ar, -er and -ir; difference between adjectives that end in -o/-a and respective adjective agreement.

The websites to be used by pupils are:

<http://www.Linguascope.com> (ask teacher for username and password)

<http://www.espanol-extra.co.uk/>

<http://www.aprender.org.uk/>

#### MUSIC

During the second half of term one, Year 5 students will explore the ‘dimensions of music’ through famous songs and music linked to a nautical theme. Students will listen to a variety of music, improvise, compose and perform multi-ability pieces. They will continue to develop their skills on Yamaha keyboards, and also make recordings.



They will also continue learning violin, trombone, keyboard, or clarinet, depending on which class they are in. They will learn a repertoire of well-known seasonal and popular songs, linked to school themes.

#### DRAMA

Pupils will enjoy an introduction to the life and world of William Shakespeare. They will also explore the story of Shakespeare's timeless tale: *The Tempest*. At the end of the topic, pupils will learn and perform a selection of scenes from the play.

#### ART

Year 5 pupils will begin the Aboriginal unit by investigating the symbols used in works of art to tell a story. Pupils will have the opportunity to create their own short story using symbols, colours and patterns. Final designs will then be transferred onto fabric and pupils will develop their painting skills by learning how to paint precisely using a variety of tools to create Aboriginal inspired textile designs.

#### PE

Individual work will focus on close control and consistency in rugby, football, netball and basketball. Competitive games will be developed to practice and progress sending and receiving skills under pressure. Tactics for attacking and defending will be introduced. Pupils will develop communication and spatial awareness skills.

You can contact the Year 5 team by sending an e-mail or by making an appointment with reception. All our email addresses are listed below. Please do contact us if you have any questions, comments or ideas, as we love to hear from you!

Kind regards,

The Year 5 Team

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