

Year 5 Newsletter – Spring 2

Welcome

Welcome to the Spring 2 Newsletter, Eagles Class! We are very eager to get started with our new topics. They are summarised for you below.

Reading

Across the school, we wish for all children to develop a passion for reading. In class, we run a daily reading session where we explore a variety of texts and genres. Selected in last half term's 'battle of the books', we will be starting the term by finishing our class text, *The Violet Veil Mysteries*. The class are enjoying being detective readers; they always try to predict what will happen next! Alongside whole class reading sessions, Year 5 also have the opportunity to read 1:1 with a member of staff to practise their reading fluency skills. These skills can be further supported at home with frequent reading. Whilst developing a love of reading, the class will also progress their comprehension skills in class. The children practice retrieving information from a text, summarising what they have read and inferring hidden meanings. At home, asking questions about what your child has read will help to prompt discussion and aid comprehension skills too. Please remember to return school books so these can be changed regularly!



Recommended reads:

The Wolf Wilder by Katherine Rundell
Heidi by Johanna Spyri
Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer

Writing

In Spring 2, Eagles class will be using Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* as a stimulus to write a story opening. Through this, the class will explore how to use conjunctions to make comparisons in their writing. From the same stimuli, the class will then write a diary entry from the perspective of Juliet, focusing on their use of emotive language to convey a character's feelings. Following from this, linking to our history topic, we will read *Anglo-Saxon Boy*, using the text to produce a news commentary about a battle.



As always, we will be revisiting some key grammar points in our English lessons. This half term, we will mainly focus on word classes and their functions within a sentence.

Maths

We will begin the half term with a maths unit about decimals and percentages. The class will apply their knowledge of fractions to help them understand these concepts. They will also learn how to convert the different representations, e.g. $\frac{1}{2}$ into 0.5 and 50%. Then, we will revisit some key learning about the perimeter and area of shapes, using this to calculate and estimate the area of compound shapes.



Year 5 will also have frequent practice of arithmetic skills, working with numbers up to 1,000,000. At home, additional practice on Times Table Rockstars is incredibly valuable too!

Science

In science this half term, we will be learning about reproduction in plants and animals. We will recap the parts of a flowering plants, learning about their functions in the process of sexual reproduction. After this, we will focus on animal reproduction and how different animal classes reproduce differently. Finally, we will investigate the life cycle of humans, exploring how this is different to that of other mammals.



Computing

Year 5 have an exciting computing unit all about gaming. They will learn about what makes a successful game by evaluating a pre-existing model. Using their findings, the class will then begin to design their own computer game, focusing on developing an effective setting, characters and gameplay. They will also develop critical skills by self and peer analysing their games.



Art & Design/Design & Technology

We will be running an Art & Design unit this half term called 'I need space'. The class will learn about the purpose and effect of imagery in artwork. From this, they will then develop decision making skills when producing their own drawing. Our research and experimentation will lead the children to produce a print-making final piece which plays with texture and space.

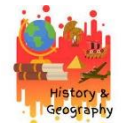


Geography/History

Our topic this half term, 'Anglo-Saxon Settlements', is History driven. Throughout the half term, Year 5 will aim to answer key questions such as:

- Who were the Anglo-Saxons?
- Where did the Anglo-Saxons live?
- What did the Anglo-Saxons make and trade?

Eagles class really enjoy learning about different historical periods and always ask very inquisitive questions. We are very excited to learn about Anglo-Saxon history!



Music

Much to the children's excitement, our next music unit is *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air* (Old School Hip-Hop). Year 5 are very excited to perform this song, with many children already knowing the lyrics!! We will explore the Old School Hip-Hop genre, listening to and appraising other similar songs. The class have been working on their timing of performances by trying hard to find the pulse of the music.



PE

In year 5, we have PE on a Monday and Friday – please ensure your child is wearing a suitable PE kit on these days. Our PE units this term are indoor athletics and multi-skills. During our indoor athletics lessons, Year 5 will learn how to perform various throwing, jumping and skipping techniques. They will then work on their techniques, aiming to improve their personal bests. In multi-skills lessons, we will be working on our agility, balance and co-ordination skills, considering how we can measure these effectively.



PSHE

Our weekly PSHE sessions follow the Jigsaw curriculum. Our fourth unit is called 'Healthy Me'. In our weekly lessons, the class will consider and discuss health-related issues such as smoking, alcohol and body image. These lessons encourage the children to talk about important issues whilst developing communicative skills. They are always reminded to be respectful and considerate of others' views.



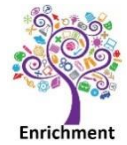
RE

Our RE lessons this half term explore the religion of Christianity, focusing specifically on the Easter story. We aim to answer the enquiry question: How significant is it for Christians to believe that God intended Jesus to die? In our RE lessons, the class will explore various Bible stories relating to the question before constructing a well-planned answer.



Enrichment

Relating to our History topic, Year 5 will be having an Anglo-Saxon afternoon where they will have the opportunity to do research their burning questions on the topic. The class will work in small groups to research an area of the topic that interests them, before presenting their findings to the rest of the group. They can choose to create a presentation, a poster or a leaflet to inform their audience.



Homework Project

Here are some activities that link to our topic. If your child completes one, please bring it in – we would love to see it!



- Choose an animal and create a poster to show its life cycle – think about how it differs from that of a human.
- Research Anglo-Saxon settlements and think about how the location has changed in the modern day. Are there any remnants of the Anglo-Saxon period?



Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities



Times Tables Rockstars



Spelling Shed



Rewards

The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.



Class information

Class Teacher: Miss Church

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Mitchell and Miss Minton

Please remember to name your child's school jumper or cardigan.

We request that all children bring a named water bottle to school every day and as the weather is warmer a sun hat and sun cream.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.

Dates for the diary!



Spring 2

Monday 26th February – School reopens to pupils

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day

Tuesday 12th March- Parents Evening; 4-7pm

Wednesday 13th March- Parents Evening; 3.30-6pm

Friday 15th March – Red Nose day – tbc

Thursday 28th March – school closes for Easter

