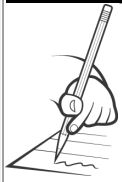


Year 5 Newsletter Autumn Term

Dear Parents

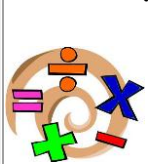
Welcome to Year 5! It sounds like the children have all had a lovely summer holiday and I am pleased to say that they have all started Year 5 with enthusiasm. This newsletter is to inform you of the different things taking place and the routines of the class. If you have any queries based on the information in the newsletter then please do not hesitate to contact me, either before or after school, or alternatively by email- staff04@croft.staffs.sch.uk.

Literacy



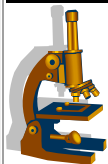
This term the children will experience writing in a range of genres. We will begin with reading 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell Boyce. They will be exploring character development and making predictions about events. Later in the term we will be looking at Non-Chronological reports; finding out about the key features and the language used and then the class will be writing their own reports about the Solar System. We will be looking at a range of poetry- including the classic poem 'The Marrog', which the class will use as a stimulus for their own poetry. Each week we will have a punctuation and grammar focus and this will often lead into their homework. We are putting an emphasis on handwriting this term and all of the children will be writing in blue handwriting pen. Please encourage your child to join their writing when completing work at home. Each week the children will be given spellings (on a Friday) which they need to learn for a test on the following Friday. Please can you encourage your child to learn their spellings in context i.e. in sentences and not just in a list. They will be focusing on suffixes including; ation and ous, word endings including; sure, ture, sion, tion, ssion, and cian. We will also look at sounds in words, that do not always sound how they look!

Numeracy



During this term the children will be covering several different topics in their Numeracy lessons. They will be developing their mental maths skills, practising different strategies to answer questions based on the four rules of number. The class will be developing their place value understanding and will be working with numbers beyond a million. I am a firm believer that children need to know all of their tables and corresponding division facts. Throughout the year we will be revisiting, practising and using our times tables up to 12x12 and this is something which you could practise further at home. We will not have a formal times tables test each week, but we will be having times table focus activities throughout each week. I will tell the children each week what the focussed table will be and this will be recorded in their homework diary.

Science



Each week the children will have 2 hours of Science. The first half term will concentrate on Earth and Space which fits in with the topic. They will be learning different facts about the planets, in particular Earth and how its orbit impacts on night, day and the seasons. In the second half term they will be looking at reversible and irreversible changes, completing practical experiments to investigate a given question.



Creative Curriculum: These lessons will incorporate History, Geography, ICT, Design and Technology and Art. The title for our Creative Curriculum is 'Stargazers' and we will be looking into all aspects of our Solar System. We will be using different images to locate places around the world, including mountain ranges, countries and oceans. The children will learn about the different geographical features of planet Earth, locating them on globes and atlases. They will be finding out about the Great Space Race, researching key astronomers such Galileo and

Aristotle and how they impact on our understanding of our planet today. They will be looking at key astronauts and learning about what life would be like to travel to space. The children will be learning about different printing techniques and completing space themed art work. In Design Technology they will be exploring different textures and creating some moon inspired embroidery. In ICT the class will be looking at control, and they will be producing computer aided art.

French: The children will be continue to learn French, being taught by Miss Bevan on a Tuesday. They will have one lesson per week which will revise previous learning and extend to include new vocabulary and understanding. This term they will be focusing on French vocabulary linked to the Solar System.

RE: The theme for the first half term is 'Sacred Writings' and then we will move onto the topic of 'Peace'. The class will be learning about different religions within the United Kingdom and around the world, findings out about different festivals and traditions.

PE: On Wednesday mornings the children will have their games lessons taught by a sports coach. The other PE lesson is gymnastics and this will be taught by myself on a Thursday. For these lessons the children will need a white t-shirt and dark shorts. As the weather starts get colder, for games, the children will need outdoor kit, preferably a track suit and trousers, over the top of their white t-shirt and dark shorts. ALL jewellery, including ear rings, must be taken out before PE as a safety precaution.

Reading: We will endeavour to hear your child read at school at least once a week. As reading is so important for all children, it will be helpful and beneficial if you could continue to hear your child read at home at least twice a week as part of their homework. If your child needs their book changing then please encourage them to put their reading book in the appropriate box in the classroom, where we will endeavour to make the necessary changes.

Homework: The children will be using their homework diaries to record their homework for the week. Homework will give the children opportunity to consolidate work they have been doing in school during the week. If your child has any problems with their homework please use the homework diary to inform me of this. We can then ensure that we can support them with this in school. Homework will consist of spellings to learn for the following week. On Friday they will be given Literacy and Numeracy homework alternatively which is to be handed in on the Monday.

As I am also the Deputy Head, I am given a two mornings per week out of the classroom, these will be on a Tuesday and a Wednesday. Miss Bevan will be teaching the children on a Tuesday and Mrs Edwards will be teaching on a Wednesday. Despite not teaching the children on these mornings, I am still in school and will be available if required. I hope you have found this newsletter informative, but if you do have any other questions then please do not hesitate to contact me, either through the school office or my email: staff04@croft.staffs.sch.uk

Thank you,
Miss K.Bartram