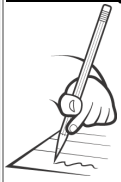


Year 5 Newsletter Spring Term

Dear Parents

I hope you all had a lovely break and I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your cards, gifts and wishes for Christmas. This newsletter will share with you information about the content of our curriculum for the Spring term as well as details of our new routines. 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- staff17@croft.staffs.sch.uk.

Literacy



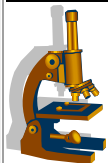
In Literacy this year the children will take part in weekly spelling, handwriting, guided reading, grammar and punctuation and writing lessons. Each week the children will be given spellings (on a Friday) to practice for a Thursday test. All of our Literacy learning will be based around texts from our topic. These will include; Robbers on the Road, a selection of Shakespeare plays and a range of non-fiction texts based around 'Tudors'. Using these texts as stimulus, we will study different text types including, stories including characters, settings and dialogue, letters, newspapers, diaries, non-chronological reports, arguments persuasive texts. In grammar we will focus on development the children ability to choose to use different sentences types for their best effect. These sentences will include noun phrases, exciting vocabulary, relative clauses beginning with who, which, when, where, whose, that or with and modal verbs such as would, should and could. We will also develop the children's use of direct and reported speech. Our main focus for punctuation, which works alongside our grammar, is the children's developing use of commas, as well as beginning to use brackets and dashes.

Mathematics



This terms Mathematics will include units multiplication and division facts including; prime numbers, multiples, factors, squares numbers, cube number and multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 as well as multiplying and dividing using formal written methods. The following units will include; fractions, decimals and percentages. Within 'fractions' we will learn about equivalent fractions, adding and subtracting fractions, proper and improper fractions, and reading and writing decimal fractions. In our 'decimals and percentages' unit we will learn how to order and compare decimals to three decimal places, rounding decimals to the nearest whole number and solving problems involving decimals and percentages. Our 'position and direction' and 'properties of shapes' unit will be taught by Mrs Denning on a Wednesday morning. In addition to our daily Mathematics lesson the children will continue with TT Rockstars with weekly tests from our Tuesday afternoon sessions. The children would benefit massively from additional practice of these tables at home.

Science



Each week the children will have 2 hours of Science. The first half term they will be looking at forces including gravity, air and water resistance. Most of this learning will be through investigations. We will then be learning about materials and their properties. In this unit we will; compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, to know that some materials will dissolve in liquid, to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating, demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes.



Creative Curriculum: These lessons will incorporate History, Geography, ICT, Design and Technology and Art. The title for our Creative Curriculum is 'Terrible Tudors'. During this topic we will learn about key figures and events during the Tudor period and as well as how and why the Tudors explored the world and the impact Tudor exploration on the rest of the world. In Geography, we will be plotting the routes taken by Tudor explorers and compare Tudor maps to modern day maps. In design and technology we will be creating Tudor samplers and in Art we will be sketching and painting Tudor style portraits.

Computing:

In ICT this term we will deepen and extend children will then learn more about the World Wide Web and the internet. This will include evaluating web sites and designing and creating our own web sites. Alongside this unit we will learn how to search technologies effectively, appreciate how results are selected and ranked. As part of our topic we will also be using a range of programs to present of learning for example; Excel, Powerpoint, Pic collage, Book creator and Notes

French: The children will be continue to learn French, being taught by Miss Paris on a Tuesday. They will have one lesson per week which will revise previous learning and extend to include new vocabulary and understanding.

RE: The theme for the first half term with be 'water in religious festivals' and in the following topic will be focused on 'suffering and hardship at Easter'.

PE: This year the children will have their games lessons taught by a sports coach, Mr Swift. This will take place on a Wednesday morning. Our other PE lesson will not take place as it is replaced in our timetable by swimming. For these lessons the children will need outdoor kit, preferably a track suit and trousers, over the top of their white t-shirt, dark shorts and trainers. 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 and this will be consolidation of learning from the week. If your child has any problems with their homework please use the homework diary to inform me of this. Maths or Literacy homework will be given on a Friday and will be due in for a Wednesday.

On a Thursday afternoon each week Mr Challinor will teach RE and Topic when I have management time out of the classroom. I will however still be in school and contactable during this time. Please feel free to get in contact with any queries, issues or concerns that you have.

Kind regards,
Mrs Hatton.