



RHODES AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 5

Autumn Term 2017

Curriculum News letter (Termly Class Letter)

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Issue 1

Introduction

Firstly, welcome back to the new school year and to Year 5. The children have settled in really well and seem energised and excited about the new school year. Below is some information relating to the curriculum and the activities that we have planned for the children in the coming term.

In **English**, we will start looking at narrative writing based around our topic. We focus our literacy using key texts (How to Train your Dragon by Cressida Cowell) which enables us to explore a variety text types; including diary; description; poetry; newspaper and traditional story writing. Reading and listening to stories is very important, it offers the children a rich and varied vocabulary to support their writing development and fosters a life long love of literacy. Our Grammar focus is linked to the narrative writing and will include; word classes; varied punctuation; sentence structure using main and subordinate clauses (relative and modal clauses)

Reading

During the course of the year we will be reading a variety of novels as a whole class. These sessions will focus on helping the children to fully understand, evaluate and enjoy what they read.

In **Maths** we will be using the new curriculum and focussing on the four main areas of maths; place value; the four operations; shape and space and data handling. It is paramount that the children know their times tables up to 12 x 12 and their corresponding division facts as these are integral to all aspects of this subject.

In Year 5 the children will be grouped in English and Maths according to the end of year assessments carried out in year 4. This will work in a similar way to the usual groupings that have run successfully for many years in upper juniors. These groupings are not fixed and children's progress will be reviewed regularly. This is to support the children in their leaning in the most effective way.

In **Science** for the first half term our topic for science is Earth, sun and moon. As part of this topic we will explore seasons and night and day.

This term, our topic is '**Anglo-Saxons and Vikings**'.

As part of this topic we will include work relating to the geography and history of this period of British history. Our topic lessons will encompass geographical, historical, musical, scientific, artistic and ICT skills. Our French lessons will also be linked to our topic. We will look at Anglo Saxon life the impact of the invasion of the Vikings. From looking at artefacts, the children will be able to gain an insight into life long ago.

If you have any books or resources which we can use in lessons please do get in touch

Our **School Values** for this academic year are: 'Co-operation', 'Empathy', 'Fairness', 'Forgiveness', 'Kindness' and 'Loyalty'.

In **PE** our focus for this half term will be gymnastics and ball games. It is essential that children have their PE kits in school everyday. This includes a Rhodes Avenue T-shirt (available from the school office), shorts, jogging bottoms, warm top and appropriate footwear. Children will be asked to remove or cover earrings before taking part in their PE session.

Please note that **PE** will be on **Friday** and **either Monday or Wednesday**. The second class will have an extra PE lesson with Mr Amooty.

Homework

Homework at Rhodes Avenue provides children with the opportunity to consolidate their classroom learning. The aim of homework is to develop pupil independence, resilience and resourcefulness. They should be able to complete their homework with minimal adult support however if your child does struggle with their homework please do not hesitate to speak to the class teacher.

Homework will take a number of different forms in year 5. We have invested in grammar and spelling books. The children will do all their homework in these books. The homework will go out on Friday and be handed in by the following **Wednesday**.

By year 5 we expect the children to complete their homework assignments independently. We always appreciate homework of a high standard and expect the children to show care and consideration with all their work.

On **Fridays**, the children will be given a list of spelling words to learn. Spelling tests will occur every Friday. Pupils will be encouraged to record homework tasks in their planners and spelling lists will be stuck in each week. We would be grateful if parents/carers could sign pupils' planners once a week.

There will also be Maths homework set on **Wednesday** to reinforce the maths concepts taught that week. This homework needs to be returned by **Friday**. Times tables tests will take place regularly. It is important that the children know their tables off by heart as they are integral to all aspects of maths.

Important Autumn term dates for your diaries:

Half term	Monday 23 rd October- Friday 27 th October
Trip to the British museum	Tuesday 17 th October
5AC's class assembly	Friday 6 th October 9:10am
5ST's class assembly	Friday 13 th October 9:10am
5CN's class assembly	Friday 20 th October 9.10am
Parents' evenings	Wednesday 15 th and Thursday 16 th November
Christmas Productions	Wednesday 6 th , Thursday 7 th and Friday 8 th December
Christmas Choir concert	Monday 18 th December
End of term	Thursday 21 st December

Educational Visits

Educational visits are an important aspect of the Rhodes Avenue Curriculum. School visits and trips provide the opportunity to enrich learning outside of the classroom and inspire learning back at school. We aim to take the children on as many school trips as possible however we recognise this can become costly.

We have decided this year to set a maximum limit on the amount we ask you to pay for trips over the whole year to £30. The school will make every effort to keep the cost of the educational visits to a minimal by using pupil transport or by visiting free exhibitions. (This cost of course excludes the residential visits that take place in Year 5 and 6)

Healthy Schools

As part of school policy and our commitment to being a Healthy School please ensure that you child's playtime snack is fresh fruit and/or vegetables. Water will always be available during the school day however we are happy for you to bring into school a bottle of water clearly labelled.

If you have any questions or queries, please do remember we are always here to help. Please speak to a member of the team to arrange a mutually convenient time.

We are looking forward to working with you,
Aileen Cronin, Shari Tickell and Clarence Ng

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