



RHODES AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 5

Spring Term 2018

Curriculum News letter (Termly Class Letter)

Class Teachers Aileen Cronin, Shari Tickell, Clarence Ng

Introduction

Firstly welcome back after your Christmas break and we hope you had a relaxing time. The children have settled well into Year 5 and are working with confidence and enthusiasm in all lessons. We are also feel very lucky to have Ms Paula Hurst join the team to support the teaching of English and Maths across Year 5. Many of you may already know Paula as she used to teach at Rhodes a few years ago. Paula will be supporting the group teaching of Reading, Writing and Maths Monday to Thursday.

This term the children will have an opportunity to consolidate and extend their learning in new topics. Here 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 continue to look narrative writing based around our topic. We focus our literacy using the key texts Rose Blanche and a novel relating to our Egypt topic. This 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 and sentence structure.

Reading

This half-term we will continue with class-based comprehension skills daily during Big read time. We will still be monitoring the children's home reading and will expect them to bring in their reading records daily. The children will continue to be reading aloud regularly.

In **Maths** we will be using the new curriculum and focussing on fractions, 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 **Science** for the first half term we will be continuing with science topic of materials and their properties and then moving onto Forces.

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This term, our topic is 'Judaism'.

As part of this topic we will be focusing on Judaism, its origins, traditions and values. We will be visiting a local synagogue. We will learn about Shabbat and Passover and the significance for Jewish people. The children will find out about rituals and festivals associated with Judaism.

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This term, our topic is 'Egyptians'

As part of this topic we will be focusing on the location of Ancient Egypt and why the Egyptians settled around the Nile, traditions, mythology, gods and goddesses and finally pharaohs and pyramids.

Please note that **PE** will be on **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays**

In **PE** our focus is dodgeball. These lessons will be taught by our PE specialist Mr Amooty. We will also be learning netball skills and hockey skills including; throwing; passing; defending as well as goal shooting. 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.

If you have any resources or expertise relating to any of our topics, please do get in touch.

Important Autumn term dates for your diaries:

Jewish museum and Synagogue visit	Tuesday 30 th January am
Half term	Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th February
Easter Holidays	Friday 30 th April-Friday 13 th April
Pendarren trip meeting for parents	TBC
Pendarren residential visit	Group A- May 1 st -4 th Group B- May 8 th -11 th

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. The children will continue to receive their Grammar homework on **Fridays** (due in Wednesday) and Maths homework on **Wednesdays** (due in Friday). We always appreciate homework of a high standard and expect the children to show care and consideration with all their work. On **Friday**, the children will be given a list of **spelling** words to learn. Spelling tests will occur every **Friday** morning.

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. You can also refer to our year group webpage on the school website for further information including information on how you can support your child's learning.

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

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