

## Year 5 Curriculum: Autumn Term

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back; it's a pleasure to have you on-board with us in Year 5 this year! Thank you for all your support in settling your children back into school. We couldn't have hoped for a better start to the new academic year, especially given the tremendous levels of change that all of our families have been through. This letter is to keep you informed about the work that the children will be doing in our busy Autumn term.

### Recovery Curriculum

We will endeavour to support each and every child in their return to school. For most children, their daily goal at school is not purely to learn, but also to re-connect with their friends and foster a sense of belonging that only their peer group can offer. We cannot underestimate the impact of the loss of that social interaction; it is as key to their holistic development as any lesson will ever be. For many children, the loss of structure will be devastating and as such, we will ensure that our curriculum gives all children the chance to adapt to school, this term and beyond. We will therefore be taking things at a slower pace at the start of the year to ease the children back in, and to ensure they are fit to learn.

### Theme - DISASTER!

This term, our topic is 'DISASTER'. Within this theme, the children will be learning about how, why and where disasters such as earthquakes and volcanoes occur. This is a Geography and 'STEM'-based (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) theme and will offer the children plenty of opportunity to learn about natural and man-made phenomena. In Geography, the children will be learning more about the structure of the Earth and how volcanoes and earthquakes occur. In addition, they will become more confident in using atlases and digital maps to locate countries and geographical features. From a historical perspective, we will focus on the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and how it affected the people of Pompeii and Herculaneum; whilst in D&T, the children will be given the opportunity to design and make structures to withstand earthquakes and other disasters. We will also be delving into the issue of plastic pollution: investigating ways that we can help make positive changes that are of benefit to our planet.

If you have any particular experiences or knowledge relating to our theme, that you feel would benefit the children's learning, please speak to one of the Year 5 team - we would love to hear from you!

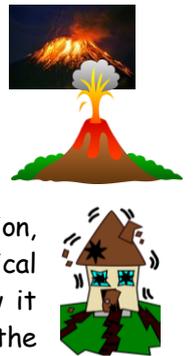
### English

During this term, the children will write for a range of different genres whilst developing their understanding of grammar and punctuation. Due to the time spent away from school last academic year, this term we will be focusing our attention closely on the skills of reading. Together, as a whole class, we will be reading a number of exciting fiction texts, in order to develop our comprehension skills, starting with *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. From this, the children will also write letters, descriptions and become reporters for the 'Daily Prophet'. Linking closely with our Autumn theme 'Disaster!', the children will then be researching and reading a range of non-fiction texts, linked to natural disasters such as volcanic eruptions. This will give the children a good basis to be able to compose and write their own non-fiction information texts. Later in the term, the children will also study well-known poems, comparing and critiquing the poetry of Kate Wakeling in her book *Moon Juice*.

### Mathematics

In Maths we will be both revising previously-taught methods and key skills from last year, as well as using them as building blocks to move forwards with the Year 5 Curriculum.

The year will start with a focus on place value, and will then move into addition and subtraction, and multiplication and division. Whilst looking at place value, we will learn how to read, represent and compare numbers to 1 000 000, as well as rounding them to the nearest 100, 1 000, 10 000 and 100 000 using number



lines. We will then consolidate and refine our addition and subtraction skills, using formal written methods, as well as applying these skills to solve word problems.

Within multiplication, we will slowly build towards being able to multiply a two-digit number by a three-digit number, whilst division will be focused on dividing using both long and short division methods. Again, these formal methods will be applied in a reasoning and problem-solving capacity.

### Computing:



Block Coding - In this unit, pupils recap on coding from previous years. The pupils will learn to make things happen in a sequence, creating simple animations and simulations. Pupils learn to code with 'if statements', which select different pieces of code to execute depending on what happens to other objects.

### Physical Education - PE

This term, P.E. will take place on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays**, and will be held outdoors as far as possible. Activities will centre on the events found in the 'Sports hall Athletics' competitions, with children working towards improving their 'personal challenge' goals.

At present, children need only change their footwear for PE. As such, please can we ask that children bring and leave their trainers/pumps in school, rather than wear their trainers with their uniform. Under no circumstances should children come to school in their PE footwear.

When full PE kit is required again, can we remind you that children are required to wear a **plain** white t-shirt and dark coloured shorts, or tracksuit bottoms and dark trainers. Earrings must be taken out or covered up and, as in school, long hair must be tied back. Can we please ask parents/carers to support this vital area of the curriculum by helping children to bring the correct changes of clothes to school for these sessions.

### Personal, Social and Health Education - PSHE

Our Jigsaw themes this term are 'Being Me in My World' and 'Celebrating Difference'.

Children will be thinking about their personal identity and their roles in and outside of school. They will also consider British values and look at how people are all unique.



### Modern Foreign Languages - MFL

During the second half term, in MFL, the children will be continuing to learn Spanish, extending their use of numbers up to 100. They will be learning to describe their family and friends and building sentences into short conversations.



### Homework

At the moment, our main aim is for children to be **reading** to an adult at least 3 times a week, and changing their books regularly. Reading diaries will be sent home every Thursday, along with a reading book, and we ask that you support us in recording what and when you have read with your child, over the weekend in particular, in the relevant section of your child's reading diary. Diaries will then be collected on a Monday morning and used at school until Thursday, when we will send books home once again.



In maths, taking any opportunity to ensure that your child knows their **times tables** (up to 12 x 12) fluently will support their learning. Times Tables Rockstars will also enable children to practise and become fluent, and login details can be found in the back of your child's reading diary.

'Power Projects' will be given **termly** and will have activities relating to our creative curriculum theme. Details will follow in due course.

Many thanks for your support,

*Mrs Granger and Mr. Cunningham*

Year 5 Team