

Autumn Term Class Newsletter

Mrs's McIlhagga's class.

A note from Mrs McIlhagga: What a great start to Year 5 we've had! It was lovely to see all the children back in school and ready to learn from the first day. We have discussed being a class team and how we should make sure we are always ready, always being respectful to others and always being safe – especially on the playground as we introduce OPAL (Outdoor play and learning). Thanks to our new OPAL scheme on the playgrounds there is lots of new and exciting equipment to share and the children are aware of our rota, what they can play with and on what days. We also have our MUGA (multi use games area) ready this term and I know how excited the children are to finally have use of this. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to send me a message on our class Dojo.

English

In English this term we will be reading 'The Story of Tutankhamun' by Patricia Cleveland-Peck, a non-fiction book which uncovers the secrets of Tutankhamun's death and his final resting place. We will also be studying 'Secrets of a Sun King' by Emma Carroll, a fiction book full of mysteries and adventures in Egypt.

We are reading... we will be reading 'Secrets of a Sun King' by Emma Carroll in our class reading time. Later in the term, we will read 'The Miracle on Ebenezer Street' by Catherine Doyle, a Christmas time-travel adventure story,

Maths

In maths we will be focusing on place value to start with: reading, ordering and comparing numbers to 1,000,000, negative numbers, rounding numbers and numbers on number lines. We will then move on to written calculations for the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

Time is of the essence, please continue to ask your child the time on an analogue clock as well as digital.

Science

This term, we will be focusing on space and why the moon appears to change shape. In this unit we will identify and understand spherical bodies, the Moon cycle, and the possibility for travel to the Moon in the future. In Autumn two, we will look at properties of shape, looking at: hardness, solubility, transparency, and conductivity. We will also understand how an investigation can be made fair.

History

In history, we will study Ancient Egyptians, linking nicely to our English books. We will look at the main events of the Egyptians, the society they lived in, what artefacts found teach us about their lifestyle and their beliefs.

Ancient Greeks will be our next history unit in which we will study their main events and location and what artefacts tell us about their culture, pastimes, and society.

Geography

This term in geography, we will be studying how to use maps, learning the features of a map and how to find and read four and six figure grid references.

We will then move on to look at biomes and climate zones. Studying their physical features and the human processes that are involved.

Other curriculum information:

Homework

Homework will be given out each Friday and should be returned by the following Thursday. Homework will always be linked to something we are studying in class.

Home Reading

Please listen to your child read at least **three** times per week for 15 minutes and record it in their school diary. Diaries must be signed by an adult after each read and need to be in school every **Monday** to be checked by Miss Duff. Children not reading at home will catch this time up in school.

TT Rock stars and Spelling tests.

Children are expected to complete **20 minutes** of TTRS which will be set each week.

Spellings will be given out every Monday for a spelling test the following **Monday** and will follow the rule we have been learning in class. Children should be aiming for 7/10 otherwise a re-test may be needed.

Other curriculum information

Skills Builder- The first skill we will focus on is 'teamwork' and the second will be 'problem solving'.

Art and Design- This term, we will be developing our drawing and sculpture skills in the style of Robert McCall/Lucien Rudaux/Chelsey Bonestel. The finish piece will be a sculpture of an existing planet. Our design and technology topic this term will be looking at mechanisms and creating pop-up books.

Computing – Throughout the year we will complete Online Safety lessons, alongside that this term we will study stop motion animations in creating media and then search engines in computer systems and networks.

PSHE – We will discuss how to manage risks and living in the wider world. We will also have a Money Mentors session.

PE- Our first unit in PE will be basketball, followed by dance.

RE – During the first half term, we will explore where why and how Hindus worship and in the second half term we will study incarnation, 'Was Jesus the Messiah?'

Music- This term, our units of work are called 'Classroom Jazz'. We will continue to learn the technique of improvising and use glockenspiels to learn how play a variety of notes, whilst considering the tempo, melody, rhythm and pitch of each song. Also, we will be improving our singing and performing skills as we prepare for our Christmas concert in the church.

French- This term, our units of work are called 'Bon appetit, bonne sante' (healthy eating) and 'Les Planetes' (the planets).