

## Year 5 Summer 2 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Hello! I can hardly believe there's only half a term left with this marvellous class! Hopefully they'll enjoy this last part of Year 5 with the great topics we have and I can send them into Year 6 feeling confident in their literacy and maths abilities. Please speak to me if you're unsure about how to help them at home or ideas for summer activities. I am sure they are all super excited about the upcoming castle trip as well; I know I am!

Continuing with our overriding theme of Ancient Islam, we'll be turning our attentions to the Silk Road. This will mainly be a geography topic, where we'll plot maps, study physical and human geography of the Silk Road and consider if it was the beginning of globalization. In literacy, inspired by our topic, we'll study the adventures of Sinbad the Sailor, Ibn Battuta's journal and Incredible Journeys by Levison Wood. We'll be writing lots of different text types, so we can continue to think about how to change our writers' voice and formality level. We'll also continue to develop our punctuation and editing skills.

In Maths, there is still a lot for us to cover. This term, we'll focus on decimals (adding, subtracting, multiplying and sequencing) before moving on to converting units and volume. I have noticed that quite a few students still struggle to tell the time with an analogue clock. We don't tend to go over this with Year 5, so if you could work this into your daily routine at home, that would be really helpful!

In Science, we will be moving on to a new topic, Earth and Space. Our big question being 'Is there a pattern between the size of a planet and the time it takes to travel around the sun?' They will carry out simple class-based investigations and devise their own methods for recording, questioning and evaluating.

Our RE topic will be Christianity and our big question is, 'What is the best way for a Christian to show commitment to god?' following on nicely from the same question last term on Islam.

Within our Computing studies, we will be Architects! Children will design an art gallery mainly using the program Sketchup. They'll have to debug and use drawing software to create digital designs.

We have a very important PSHE topic this term, where we'll focus on puberty. As you can imagine, this may raise some questions for you at home! Here's what I'll be covering in class: hygiene, changes to their bodies, including all the proper names for the reproductive organs, menstruation and wet dreams  
A separate letter will be going out detailing these lessons further. Please talk to me directly if you have any concerns.

This term we have an exciting DT project! We will be designing our own water mills focusing on 5 design criteria: Function, Usability, Quality, Safety and Aesthetics. Having visited the windmill last term, I know that the children will have loads of ideas about how to create an effective product.

Our P.E. lessons will continue to be on **Mondays** and **Tuesdays**. Bring sun cream!

For homework this half term, children should complete a minimum of **three** activities from the main grid. I am also sending home catch up activities which are optional. Homework is due on Thursday 21st July. In addition to homework, please ensure your child is reading a quality text for 20 minutes each day.

I hope you find this information useful and if you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to speak to me.

Best wishes, Rachel