

# Class 5 Curriculum Update

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Monthly values – Fairness and Happiness

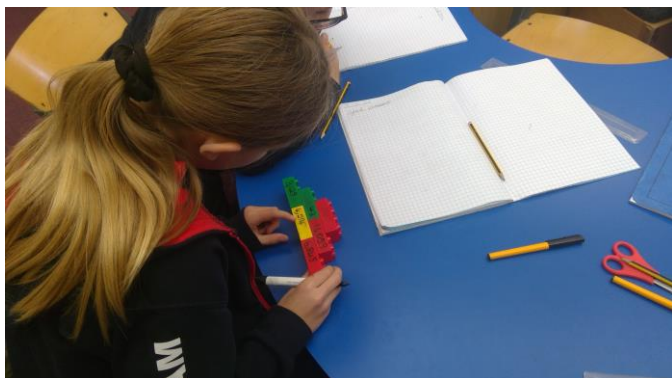


## 'We're not lost, we're just exploring!'

Good afternoon from Year 5! I can't believe we have nearly completed our first half-term in Year 5. Well done to all children (and families) for settling into new routines and ways of doing things. The children have adapted well, which I'm very pleased with.

We've really started getting stuck into our exploring theme lately. As historians, we've made a timeline and looked into some famous explorers from the past, such as Vikings, Marco Polo, Christopher Columbus, Captain Cook, Scott of the Antarctic, Earnest Shackleton, Neil Armstrong and Ranulph Fiennes. You might like to ask your child what they know and even carry on with your own research. As artists and geographers, we've developed some map skills to create our own treasure maps and even started to measure and map out the Forest school site. As scientists we have been looking at how the sun, moon and Earth orbit and rotate in connection with each other. We studied the old 'geocentric model' of the solar system and how explorers have helped scientists replace it with a 'heliocentric model'. As linguists we have been learning and practising basic conversational French with Mrs Blaker. As writers, we have been developing skills by writing some biographies of famous explorers. At home, you may like to reinforce any writing with our recent focus on expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials (see the 'Learning guidance' section on the Y5 class page on the website), capital letters for all names and places, and checking every sentence for correct punctuation. As mathematicians, our focus so far has been on understanding place value of numbers whilst also developing addition and subtraction methods to solve problems. Can you solve some of the problems set by the children in these photos below (you may need to zoom in!)?





## Homework

Every week your child is expected to practise their times tables and also learn some new spellings. These can be done on TTRockstars and Spellingshed, or through paper and pencil. I don't mind which you do, as long as your child is practising in a way that works for them. Everyone should have a 'spelling menu' in their reading diary which has some ideas for practising spellings. All children should have their log-ins glued into their diary but any difficulties or problems with it, just let me know so we can look into it. Thank you.

## 40 reads

Please prioritise reading for **10-15 minutes a day**. Your child's reading can be anything meaningful – books, magazines, suitable internet articles, football reports etc. First and foremost, reading should be fun and enjoyable so find something meaningful that your child will want to read.

Please record in your child's diary. These should be brought into school every day so the children can use them like a diary and add important things in. On Fridays, we will collect all the diaries in to check for 40 reads and then return them on Monday. After 7 weeks back at school, children should hopefully be nearing 40 reads. It is understandable that times are different at the moment but take the opportunity to create a daily routine that works for your family and your situation. Thank you.

Please feel free to speak to me (via phone or email) if you have any worries or concerns regarding your child, whether it is to do with at school or at home.

From Mr Ford, Mr Batstone and the Year 5 Team.

## Caving

We are looking forward to going caving next Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October. Arrive at school at normal time please but be aware of pick up time at 5pm. We will be going with trained staff from Longtown Outdoor Learning Centre. Your child may have some worries but rest assured they will be well looked after. By going caving, it will provide us with many creative writing opportunities back in the classroom. It will also allow us to think about the planning and equipment used when setting off on an exploration, whilst also giving us a better understanding of how it feels, as an explorer, to step out and into the unknown. Please check the recent Parentmail for details of what to bring.



## Timetable

I have added our Y5 timetable onto the Y5 class page on the website. This is a guide for you to know roughly what is going on in class every day. Every day brings its own demands so we don't stick to this rigidly but it does provide a rough framework that we fit to. It has worked well so far with children coming in every Tuesday in Forest School clothes, whilst every Monday and Friday wearing PE kits. Thank you for your support with this. As we approach winter, please continue to ensure they have warm layers to keep them warm and comfortable at school.

We do English and Maths work at some point every day. In addition, we have Samba music every Wednesday and Musical Theatre Workshop every Thursday. It is a very busy week and I'm sure the children are all justifiably worn out by the end of the week!