

# Class 5 Curriculum Update

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Monthly values – 'Compassion' and 'Happiness'



## 'In your element'

We have now come to the end of our short unit of work about the four elements: Earth, Wind, Fire and Air. It has provided us with the opportunity to look at how powerful nature can be and some of the natural disasters that unfortunately go with these. In particular, we have studied how the movement of tectonic plates create earthquakes, famous volcanic eruptions like Vesuvius, tsunamis such as the Indian Ocean one in 2004 and on Monday we will finish off by looking at tornadoes and hurricanes. The children have all been fairly interested in learning about these and I'm sure we could have spent much longer investigating all these phenomena. We realised how fortunate we are that we don't really have any severe natural disasters like these, in our country.

Outside of our theme learning, we have continued with our flute lessons, learning 'A' and 'B' chords. Tag rugby has continued with Aiden Cheshire from Luctonians and Mr Richards has been helping the class create their own totem pole in Construction lessons! In science, the class have been investigating how to separate insoluble materials, like sand, from water. They also enjoyed creating 'irreversible changes' by mixing bicarbonate of soda and vinegar to create their own volcanoes with an eruption. There will be plenty more learning to come in the next few weeks before Christmas!

## Parents' evening

I just wanted to say how nice it was to see many of you over the different days and have the chance to have a brief conversation. I'm currently following up on a few things that have arisen from this, but please feel free to drop me a message about anything in the meantime. You don't need to wait until the next parents evening if there is something you wish to discuss. Hopefully, you all managed to look at your child's books with them and let them share some of the good work they have achieved this term.



## Homework

Your child should be receiving a spelling list and a times table focus every week. Please do encourage your child to practise these to develop their confidence, familiarity and speed. A lot of the maths work in the year ahead, will rely on having a good recall of times tables facts, which is why we are placing a high emphasis on it now. I recommend 'little but often' as a good method to practise but please do whatever works for you and your child. Seesaw log-ins have all been sent home and hopefully you have managed to check that they work ok. Occasional homework or practise will be posted on there. Keep up with the good reading at home – regular reading (of any texts) is incredibly beneficial to your child's development.

## Next theme

We will now be starting our next theme, which is called 'Mission Control' and is all about learning about 'space'. This theme will continue either side of Christmas so we will hopefully get lots of great learning from it. Have you got any interests, artefacts or connections that you can share with the class to improve all of our understanding?

*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.*

