

Year 5 Curriculum Update

September 2024

Values: Diversity and Empathy

We have had a lovely start to the term. Your children have returned enthusiastic to learn and they are settling back in to the routine of school really well. It is lovely to be teaching them again this year and I am so please to see the progress they have been making since Year 3.

'Come Fly With Me – America'

Our learning this half term will be linked to North and Central America. We have started with the location of America and the different states. We are currently researching a landmark of interest to share with each other. As part of the Geography, we will learn about weather and climate and how diverse it is across the states. We will go on to learn about the discovery of America and the Native American people. Our visit to the American museum in Bath will support our learning.

We are well into our class text –The Boy who Biked the World – The Americas- which is helping to describe the diverse climates and terrains in South America and we are about to enter the United States of America, which will reinforce current learning and hopefully stir their curiosity about America.

Visit from Lydia

Lydia, who is an ex-pupil of Madley, came in to talk to us about the Paralympics along with some of the challenges she has faced as someone with dwarfism. The children were surprised to hear that everything needs to be adapted for Lydia including her home, car and clothes. The children were very engaged and inspired by her and the respect they showed in their listening, questioning and reflections was exceptional.



Mastery of Number

In Maths, we will be exploring multiplication and division and the relationship between these because they form the basis of the maths we will be doing this year. The sessions will deepen the understanding we have of multiplication and division and we will be working on our recall of these facts. The use of TT Rockstars will show the children their progress in the form of their heat maps, which some children are checking with excitement as they see their colours change with improved fluency.

Drama Geezers

We always enjoy our visits from the 'Drama Geezers' because they bring such energy into school and this term they have deepened our thinking about diversity, especially linked to the challenges people in the past have had as a result of the colour of their skin. The innocence of the children was shown in these sessions because they were surprised to hear people were treated so badly and were 'not allowed' to do the same as others. It was a lovely session where our understanding of why we celebrate diversity deepened and we had to practise our value of empathy as we role-played being the different inspirational people through a story about the Planet Alex, where everyone was the same!



Homework & 40 reads

I have spoken to the children about regularly using **Spelling Shed** and **TT Rockstars** by playing 4/5 games each day. However, if they prefer to learn their spellings and tables in more traditional ways with pen and paper then that's fine too. They can just bring these sheets in to show me each Friday.

Reading diaries (now in the form of their diary) need to be in school daily. The children are now able to take more responsibility of these but it is important that parents/carers are still listening to their children read and signing the diaries regularly. Thank you for helping your children get into the habit of writing a sentence for each read they now have. The 'rules' were changed so a read counts for every day now. Please note: These reads are for at home not what is done at school.

At times, your child may get additional research homework linked to their themes, which they will record in their diaries.

Dates for the diary

Weds 9th Oct - Visit to American Museum – Bath

Weds 6th Nov - Year 5 Class Assembly (9.10am)

Monday – alternate Monday's will be Forest School.
Next one is 23rd September. (Children should wear their Forest School clothes every week).

PE days – Tuesday and Friday



If you have any concerns, queries or things to celebrate, please do not hesitate to make contact.

Kind regards, Mrs Lee and the Year 5 Team