

Class 5 Curriculum Update

Friday 20th December 2019

Monthly values – Compassion and Appreciation



'Touching the Void'

Merry Christmas to you all! We have reached the end of the first term in Year 5 and we have certainly crammed a lot in since September. In looking at extreme and dangerous sports, it has provided us with many fantastic learning opportunities and a wide range of interesting stimuli for writing, maths, science, art, music and more. Highlights for the children were scooting at the skatepark, paddleboarding and high ropes course at Longtown, caving and tae-kwondo. Science investigations have revolved around bungee jumping and parachuting, whilst art projects (with Mrs Delahoy) have been around studying how to show 'movement'.

Every child has shown that they have already made progress in Year 5 with their reading, writing and maths work. The class have worked very hard in what has been a long term. I hope they can all fully enjoy a well-earned break over the next couple of weeks and recharge their batteries ready for the next term. I look forward to seeing everyone in January to continue our learning journeys together. I wish you all a very merry Christmas and hope it is a peaceful and enjoyable time for you and your families.





Homework

Please keep practising all spellings using either Spellingshed or homework books. TTrackstars provides great practise too. The data shows that children who use it regularly find it positively influences their reading writing and maths abilities.

Reading for **10-15 minutes a day** should similarly be prioritised as it helps a child's reading, spellings and writing ability. This is probably the single biggest thing you can do to help your child develop. The more enjoyable you can make it, the more they are likely to want to read for themselves,

Timetable

On the website, there should be an example timetable of our week and what activities we do on each day. It may be of use to highlight the early morning starter activities, which usually start the day in a positive way. Please note that due to lots of exciting events and activities always going on around school, the timetable is frequently subject to change. However, as a rough guide it may be of use to discuss with your child about how their day has gone.

Extreme reading and photo galleries

I have updated the photo galleries on the website to include some of our recent activities. Thank you very much to all those who helped send in an extreme reading photo. It helped make for great viewing!



Next term

When we return in January we will start our new topic chosen by the children, about 'toys' and especially looking at old toys. As a way of introducing the theme, it would be great if children could bring a game or toy into class on the first day back (Tuesday 7th January 2020). This should be something they enjoy playing with and can explain to the class why they like it. This will help us start off our theme by looking at modern toys.

Please can we ask that no expensive toys are brought in as we wouldn't want any to get accidentally broken and neither do we want it to become competitive about who has what toy. It may be a toy/game that they have received for Christmas but it doesn't need to be. It could simply be something that has special meaning to them. Thank you for your understanding.

In addition, we would love it if there are any parents or grandparents that have any of their toys from their childhood that they would either be willing for the children to bring into class or even come into class themselves to talk about the toys they had. This would provide a great way to try to understand how toys have developed and changed over the years but also to recognise how important any toy (no matter how simple) is to their owner. Please let me know if you would be happy to do this. Thank you very much.

Please feel free to come in and speak to me (or by 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.