

JANUARY 2022

# YEAR 5

*at Whaplode Primary*

Welcome back, I hope you all have had a wonderful Christmas and New Year...  
... two weeks goes so quickly! Fingers crossed, toes crossed and everything else, normal service can continue to operate at school and we can strive to continue to work as we have in Year 5, to meet our full potential with a very full timetable of learning.



## Maths

During this part of the Spring term, Year 5 will continue to develop their understanding of key mathematical concepts, such as formal written methods for multiplication and division. This will then lead them into developing their knowledge of decimals, percentages and fractions. During the lessons there is always an initial focus on fluency, which when mastered, naturally leads them through to developing problem solving and reasoning skills.

## Writing skills

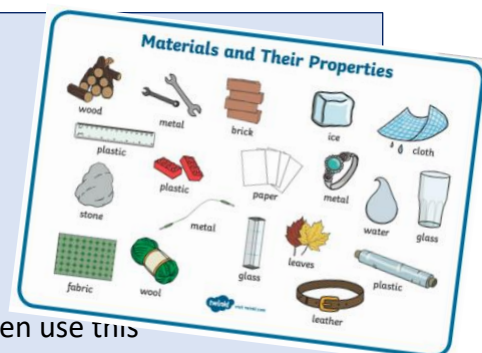
We have a busy time table in literacy with three different genres to explore, and as before these will be linked to our Connections work. The genres we are going to be looking at are: myths and the hero Beowulf, persuasive writing in the form of a chieftains speech and finally, a newspaper report, recording the importance of Sutton Hoo. As always there will be a focus on key features, vocabulary and sentence structure. It is a real push that children realise the skills they practise in their writing skills lessons, are extended across all subjects, with particular focus on common spellings and punctuation.

## Connections

We continue to use the big question to drive our Connections work, with our question being, 'What was the impact of the Anglo-Saxon invasion on Britain?' You might have gotten a clue from the Christmas homework, where the children were asked to begin to explore elements of Anglo-Saxon times, which I hope can be displayed on our wall. We will be covering history and geography over the next few weeks, as we explore their invasion, lifestyle and religion, finishing with art and exploring symbolism, such as knots and the use of colour.

## Science

This term we have a new focus for science, which is Materials and their properties. The children will begin by exploring different ways we can categorise materials scientifically based on what we know and observe. We will then begin to look at how materials can change using different temperatures and try to explain, in a scientific way, what is happening, pupils will then use this knowledge to begin to predict how other materials might behave, when subjected to the same conditions.



## PE

PE sessions have not changed so will continue to be on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. As before, we are asking children to come to school in their school PE kit, in-line with school uniform. As much as possible we are hoping (weather permitting) to conduct the lessons outside on Wednesdays, and in class or outside on Fridays. We will also be planning to walk the daily mile during afternoons on a regular basis.

## Homework

These requirements are the same as last half term and will be posted on the Year 5 Teams as well as printed out.

With reading, the expectation from school remains the same: read at least four times a week. The children are to continue to write a short paragraph/synopsis, in their reading diary, to re-tell what they have read. This unfortunately, is still not being done as a regular action by some. There is a white box in the diary, under the appropriate day of the week, they are to use. Please ask the children to write quite small in the box. Diaries will then be checked on Fridays, and if they have excelled, 'Reading star' and pencils can be won.

Vocabulary and spelling are a major focus for Y5. With this in mind, ten new words will need to be learnt each week, along with their meanings please, and as before there will be a test on Fridays.

The Friday 'Times Table Challenge' is going well, with everyone beating their own scores on a regular basis, so we will continue this along with recapping previous learning from our maths lessons.