

YEAR 5

at Whaplode Primary

Great times for all of us, I hope, the return of everyone to classes!

May I firstly take this opportunity to thank you for the support you have shown us, during this difficult time of blended learning. I know it has, at times, been stressful and often seemingly overwhelming for everyone, but we seemed to have got into a routine and got through it, with the children having achieved many learning objectives. I would also like to say how proud I am of the guys that kept posting their work via email or Padlet, who were always on Teams chatting and regular contributors at our class meetings. *Thank you.*

Maths

In the second half of this Spring term, Year 5 will continue to develop their understanding of fractions, which naturally leads to percentages and decimals. There will be a need to revisit some of the key elements, that were addressed through lockdown, but I am confident this will not be too disruptive and we can push forward, so the children can cover the areas of the curriculum we need to for this term.

Literacy

As always literacy is busy, with three different genres to explore. We link these to our Connections work, in the form of; a Suffragette newspaper article, persuasive writing of a letter, to ask for women's right to vote and finally, a discussion (do women have equal rights then and today). As always, there will be a push for children to continue to improve their use of vocabulary, sentence structure and practice using greater technical aspects of literacy.

Connections

We use the big question to direct our Connections work, with the question being, "Did Emmeline Pankhurst change the World?" This has begun to spark great interest with the children as they begin to research and explore the early Suffragette's campaigns and to try and understand what Victorian life and expectations were like for the average lady of the times. Within Connections we are able to explore areas of the curriculum such as geography, history, social science, art and DT.

Blended Learning

With the success of Blended Learning, I am planning to continue this approach in class, as we move things forward. Children have enjoyed the interaction of having resources on-line and being able to access video support when they need to. Likewise, it seems a shame not to continue using this, after the children worked so successfully to master it, and it has proven to be a strong tool that can be used to assist and complement in-class learning.

PE

We have two PE slots per week, these will be on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons.

As before, we are asking children to come to school in their school PE kit, in-line with school uniform requirements.

As much as possible we are hoping, weather permitting, to conduct the lessons outside on Wednesdays, and in the hall on Tuesdays, as we are studying dance.

We will also be hoping to walk the daily mile during afternoons on a regular basis.



Homework

Homework requirements are the same as last half term and will be posted on the Year 5 class Padlet, which can be accessed via the school's website. As we move forward, when children have completed their work, we are asking that a close photograph is taken and posted with their name at the top of the post. This way we can still see and comment on their hard work.

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, and as before there will be a test on Fridays.

The Friday 'Times Table Challenge' is going well, with everyone beating their own scores now, so we will continue this along with a focus on a particular table, to help everyone improve their recall of tables, which is imperative.