

YEAR 5

at Whaplode Primary

Welcome back after your half term. I so hope you had a good break and have recovered from the shock of coming back to school in September. We will continue to work our way through to Christmas, in much the same way as we have been doing.



Maths

We begin this part of the term with a bit of a recap on adding and subtraction before moving onto statistics and reading data from tables and graphs. Here children will get to understand line graphs through to two-way tables to obtain the correct information to answer questions. We will then move onto developing their understanding of multiplication and division by first getting them to explore factors, multiples and prime numbers. Fingers crossed, we will have a little time left to begin to explore perimeters before term end.

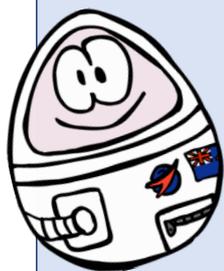
Literacy

We have a busy time in literacy with three different genres to explore, and as before these will be linked to our Connections work. The genres we are looking at are: persuasive adverts, narratives and poetry, with focuses on their key features, vocabulary and sentence structure. It is a real push of mine, that the children realise the skills they pick up in their literacy lessons, are extended across all subjects, with particular focus on common spellings.

Connections

We continue to use a big question to drive our Connections work, with our question being, "Did John Harrison change the World?" You might have gotten a clue from the half term homework, where I asked the children to begin to explore who John Harrison was, and what he accomplished. Under this subject, we will be able to incorporate geography, history and art, to give the children a deeper understanding of these subjects and the importance of accurate time pieces to calculate longitude.

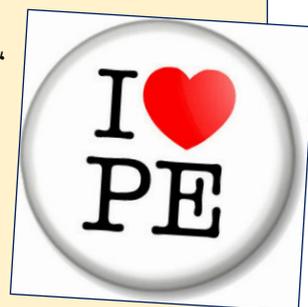
Science



Now we have a good understand of our Solar System and how it works, the children are going to be set the challenge of the 'Eggnaut'. He or she, is returning to Earth, after a visit to the International Space Station, so our Year 5 engineers need to have developed a system to protect their Eggnaut from getting scrambled on the return journey, or more importantly, the landing. Children will spend time researching different design concepts, different materials, before testing their prototypes. This will culminate in a competition, to see who's Eggnaut does not crack under the pressure of landing.

PE

As swimming is now finished until next year, we have two PE slots per week. As a result our PE sessions 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.

Free Reading

It is with great pride, we can announce we have started to see several free readers in Year 5. Free Readers have access to our own little library, which has been filled with some new and exciting books. Many children are keen to attain 'Free Reader' status, however they first have to be able to read and understand, with confidence, level 16 books, so fingers crossed, I see some more achieve this in the coming weeks and months.