

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 by finishing off statistics and reading data from timetables (just in case they need to catch the bus or train). We will then move onto developing their understanding of multiplication and division by first getting them to explore factors, multiples and prime numbers, before multiplying and dividing by 10's, 100's and 1000's. We should then be able to visit perimeters and area before the end of term.

Literacy

We have a busy time in literacy with three different genres to explore, two of these will be linked to our Connections work. The first to explore is poetry, and we will be looking at the different structures of some classics, before writing our own Remembrance poem. The other genres we are looking at are: narratives and persuasive adverts, with focuses on their key features, vocabulary and sentence structure. It is important that the children continue to apply all their literacy skills across the subject, with particular attention to high frequency spellings and punctuation.

Connections

We continue to use a big question to drive our Connections work, with our question being, "How has North America changed as a result of British colonisation?" You might have gotten a clue from the half term homework, where I asked the children to begin to explore North America in various ways. 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 diversity of North America.



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 Farm, so our Year 5 engineers need to develop a system to protect their Eggnaut from cracking and getting scrambled on their return journey, or more importantly, the landing!

It is no joking matter, children will need to spend time researching different design concepts and materials, before testing their prototypes. This will culminate in a competition, to see whose Eggnaut is hard boiled enough not to 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 Wednesday and on 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 the hall on Fridays, 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 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 bases, so we will continue this along with a focus on a particular table, to help everyone improve their recall of tables, which is imperative.

Reading

It is great news we have started to see more and more 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, the books they are reading. We also have our Class Reader, which is linked to our topic and is, 'In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse'.