

YEAR 5

at Whaplode Primary

Hello, and welcome back as Year 5's. It has been a very strange time for everyone but it is wonderful to see so many children back in classes and enjoying seeing their friends. Everyone has settled in so well and there is a positive feeling to getting back to the routines of being in school.



Maths

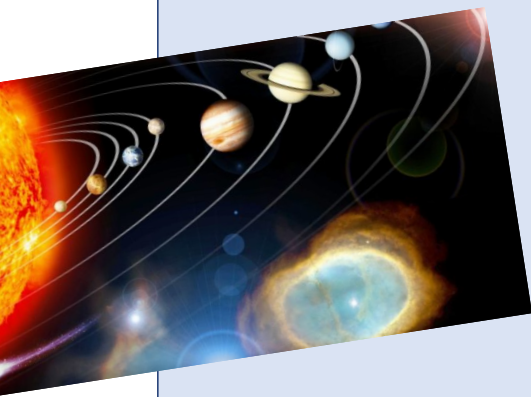
We are starting our term with place value, securing any gaps in the children's knowledge, before moving onto the different operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). This will take us over a term to complete and elements of the different operations will be set as homework in later weeks. However to help them later, it is very important for the children to have a strong knowledge and quick recall of their times tables. With this in mind, key times tables (6, 7, 8, 9) will be set as home works and a speed challenge will take place on Friday's, where they try and beat their own score from the previous week.

English

We like to link literacy to our Connections subject, which is to do with the genius, Leonardo da Vinci. However, before we explore biographical writing and non-chronological reports, we are using an illustrated book called 'Here we Are', to help children ease back into writing and school life.

Connections

We are continuing to develop and deepen the children's knowledge with our new connections scheme of work and the focus question is, "Did Leonardo da Vinci change the World?" There is a wide scope to study, which will range from European geography, history and time-lines, through to paintings and his fine art and the advanced inventions of their time, that change the world. This will culminate with everyone building their own 'Cam hammer'.



Science

This term we will be exploring, in line with the National Curriculum, 'Earth and Space'. During the term we will explore the planets within our universe, how Earth is affected by the Sun and moon, and understanding the movement of the celestial objects. Additionally, we will study stars and their constellations. Children will have the opportunity to conduct experiments, creating solar models and deepening their understanding of the forces present within our solar system and our place within it.

PE

This term, our PE session will be on Wednesday afternoons. Importantly, we are asking that children come to school in their school PE kit, in-line with school uniform requirements. The reason for this change, is again to help us with C19 controls. As much as possible we are hoping, weather dependant, to conduct the lessons outside, at least until half term. We will also be hoping to walk the daily mile during afternoons on a regular basis. Additionally, swimming for this half term will be on Thursday afternoons, so could children bring their kits with them please.



Homework

The main difference for homework is books will remain at home, helping us with C19 control. Homework requirements 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.

The expectation from school remains the same, read at least four times a week. Now the children are in Year 5, I would now like them to write a short paragraph/synopsis, in their reading diary, to re-tell what they have read. There is a white box in the diary, under the appropriate day of the week, they are to use. Please ask them to write small diaries will then be checked on Fridays, and if they have excelled, 'Reading star' and pencils can be won.

Vocabulary and spelling is always a focus, and it has been proven that reading and spelling help children to progress in literacy. With this in mind we have a bank of new words to learn, which we will steadily work through as homework spellings each week. A spelling test will take place on Fridays.

Likewise, each Friday there will be a 'Times Table Challenge' to fill in, against a set time. They should try to improve on their previous weeks score, so they are competing against themselves, not with others. Children then look at the times table they struggled the most with and work on that table over the next week. Hopefully, this will gradually get them to build a faster recall and tick off those tricky tables they do not like.