

This Term in Year 5

Autumn Term 2016

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to Year 5! Your teachers this year are Mrs B. Evans (5BE), Mr M. Hutchinson (5MH) and Miss J. Johnson (5JJ) along our teaching assistants; Mrs Gilbert, Miss Field, Miss Thelwell, Mr Bloor, Mrs Young and Mrs McDermott.

Your children have made a fantastic start to the Autumn term, beginning on Monday with an exciting launch of this term's topic: **The Romans!** Throughout this week the children have taken on the role of code-breakers using Roman numerals to decipher words they will need to use throughout our topic; created a Roman soldier and learnt about his armour and weapons; they worked as artists answering questions about Roman artwork and sketching their own; and finally they had a Roman feast tasting food such as ciabatta, olives and dates.



During the topic children will learn about the Roman Empire and consider its impact on Britain through learning challenge questions:

- Why was the Roman army so powerful?
- What impact did the Roman's have on Britain?
- How does Roman army compare with the British army of today?
- How did the Celts react to the Roman invasion?
- Can I place events from the past in time order?

After half term, we will be launching a brand new topic '**Come Fly With Me**' which will be a geography and science based topic. More information about this will follow later on in the term.

Our learning in **English** this term will be based around different picture books. We are starting off with 'Escape from Pompeii' and using this to inspire the writing of recounts, information texts and newspaper reports.

Over the course of the term, all classes will take part in an exciting experience called 'Reading the Game' which is a six week programme run in collaboration with Shrewsbury Town Football Club and is aimed at using the **motivational powers of football and sport** to inspire young people to improve their **English skills**. During these engaging sessions, the children will develop their skills in reading and writing; take part in an exciting reading challenge, as well as enhance their understanding of the qualities and skills needed by sportsmen and women, and the need to have a healthy lifestyle.

In order to improve **reading** skills, it is important that children read regularly. Even with confident readers, it would help if you continue to listen to them read and discuss their responses to reading books whilst recording this in their reading diaries. Each week class teachers check reading diaries have been filled in regularly. A child's learning benefits greatly from such discussions with their parents. Reading is expected as part of the children's weekly home learning. *(See below)*

In **Maths** we will be developing our knowledge and understanding of place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, as well continuing to improve our problem solving and reasoning skills. We shall also be concentrating on mental and written calculations in an ongoing way through our regular arithmetic practice.

Our **Science** topic is '**Pop, fizz, crackle!**' and focuses on properties and changes of materials. Through practical investigation we will:

- compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal), and response to magnets
- know that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution, and describe how to recover a substance from a solution
- use knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating
- give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests, for the particular uses of everyday materials, including metals, wood and plastic
- demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes
- explain that some changes result in the formation of new materials, and that this kind of change is not usually reversible, including changes associated with burning and the action of acid on bicarbonate of soda.



In **PE** we will study football skills through our exciting initiative 'Reading the Game', as well as learning other skills and games during Multisports lessons on Thursdays.

PE and Forest School:

Below are the dates of PE and Forest school sessions for the coming term. Please ensure your child has the correct kit in school every day.

	Up to Thursday 20th October	Thurs. 3rd November – Thurs. 15th December
5JJ	Forest School every Thursday	Outdoor PE with Sportscape every Thursday
5MH	Outdoor PE with Sportscape every Thursday	Outdoor PE with Sportscape every Thursday
5BE	Outdoor PE with Sportscape every Thursday	Forest School every Thursday

Please ensure all clothing and equipment, including PE kits and sandwich boxes, has your child's name and class clearly marked on it. (They are so much easier to locate with a name and class.)

Home Learning

All home learning for the week will be given on a **Friday** to be completed and handed to your child's set teacher on a **Wednesday**. Home learning will consist of: spellings, daily reading (which needs to be recorded in their reading diaries), a piece of English or Topic work, times tables practice and a piece of Maths work related to the learning which has taken place that week. This might be in the form of a written task to complete in a Home Learning book, a creative project or it might be a task to complete on Athletics and Spellodrome. Home learning should not need to take more than thirty minutes each day.

We hope your child will be happy and willing to learn in Year 5. If there is anything you wish to discuss please do not hesitate to contact us. If you have anything that you would like to discuss or of course you can always catch us in the playground at the end of the day.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Johnson

Mr Hutchinson

Mrs Evans