



Highlights from last term ...

British Science Week

We had a fabulous science-themed parental engagement getting very messy! Over time, we observed changes to skittles sweets when we added them to water and we had a competition to see how many water droplets we could add to a penny! We were so impressed with the ingenious costumes children wore for our science day, they ranged from the Solar System, periodic table, science teacher, 'neon' and a botanist! So clever... thank you for supporting these events.



Climate Workshop

Last term, the children also took part in an exciting workshop and learnt about climate change and how they can look after the planet. They took part in many fun activities including: news reporting on strategies to reduce their carbon footprint, making a clay stove pot and exploring how those in Africa live using less greenhouse gases than us in the UK. The children all thoroughly enjoyed the day and learnt a lot!



Curriculum and topic this term:

English: Following on from a very inspiring training day at the end of last term, we are excited to explore a new writing approach with our pupils. Initial 'Grammarsaurus' sessions are based on the children gaining a solid understanding of simple sentence structures, which enables them to correctly punctuate them then build up to constructing more complex sentences. We believe this will greatly improve the children's accuracy and effectiveness when writing complete texts, both fiction and non-fiction.

The children will continue to practise their reading skills via a high quality, appropriate book that is read and discussed together with their teacher as a whole class. They will also practise answering comprehension questions based on shorter texts, focusing on key areas called 'reading VIPERS': Vocabulary, Infer, Predict, Explain, Retrieve, Sequence/Summarise. We hope that you will help us to support your children in their own, personal reading journey by helping them to find books that inspire pleasure and interest and by encouraging them to make reading a regular, frequent and enjoyable part of their daily routine.

Maths: In mathematics this term, we will be following the objectives outlined in the National Curriculum. Our main foci for this term will be: '**Fractions**', '**Decimals and Percentages**', '**Perimeter and Area**', '**Statistics**', '**Geometry: Properties of Shape**', '**Geometry: Position and Direction**', and '**Measurement: Converting Units**'.

Science: This term we will initially be continuing our '**Properties and changes of materials**' topic.

We will then study '**Living things and their habitats**', where children will be describing the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, amphibian, an insect and a bird. They will also describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. Finally, we will explore '**Animals including humans**' and children will describe the changes a human body goes through.

Topic: Our topic for this term is '**What Happened When Britain Became Roman?**' In this topic, the children will learn about key events that took place during the Roman period and order these chronologically. They will be able to describe aspects of Roman life and explore the legacies they left behind. Towards the end of this topic, they will also learn about how Britain attempted to resist the Roman invasion.

R.E: Our R.E questions for this term are: '**What would Jesus do?**' and '**Why do some people believe in God and some do not?**'

Art: We will be exploring '**Pop Art**' and will study famous artists, including Andy Warhol, David Hockney and Roy Lichtenstein. We also explore the technique of 'printing' using acrylic paints and children will create their own volcano themed pop-art printing!

Music: This term, the children will be learning the song '**Livin' on a prayer**' by **Bon Jovi**, following our Charanga scheme of work. They will also be given the opportunity to learn and play some instruments to accompany this piece of music.

French: This term, we will be focusing on '**My home**' and '**Habitats**'.

PE: This half-term, we will have a weekly **games** session (**athletics or tennis**). Next half-term, we will be developing our **rounders** skills and completing a **dance** unit.

Computing: In Computing this half term, the children will be developing their '**coding**' skills using the Purple Mash scheme of work. They will learn how to code a simple programme and de-bug any problems they come across. They will also explore coding 'simulations' and develop their knowledge of computer science.

PSHE: In each of our classes, this term, we will be sensitively exploring elements of '**Bereavement and Loss**' (separate parent mail has been sent).

Reminders

Please help us to keep your children fit and healthy by ensuring that they come into school with their PE uniform on the correct days (dance days to be confirmed after half term):

5R – Tuesday (Tennis)

4/5B – Wednesday (Tennis)

5BT – Tuesday (Athletics)



Children being excused from physical education for a medical reason should bring a note.

If your child is **asthmatic** please could you ensure that they have an inhaler, labelled with their name, in school **at all times!**

As many of you already know, we are a healthy eating school and we would like to remind you that children should only bring in fruit to eat at break times. It is also very important children have a water bottle in school – we strongly encourage children to drink plenty of water throughout the day. Water helps keep them hydrated but also improves their levels of concentration and learning.



UNIFORM

All pupils are required to wear school uniform. Can we remind you that this is; purple jumper (not PE hoodie), white or purple polo shirt both with or without logo, grey trousers or shorts, grey skirt or grey pinafore. During the hot weather a purple/ white gingham checked dress is permitted. On the children's PE day, they need to wear their PE uniform which is grey/black joggers or shorts (shorts are preferable for Dance lessons), a purple t-shirt, a purple PE hoodie or jumper and trainers. Please ensure all uniform is clearly named. All uniform can be purchased from Club Sport.

Homework

Please support your child with their home reading, as well as any spellings or times tables they may need to learn. Each half term, we will also set a task around our current topic and this will be available for you to access on the school website. Please ask your children if they have any homework and give them every encouragement to do it – we greatly value your support in this area.

Special Events

Madley Environmental Centre:

On the 18th and 19th of June, Year 5 will be travelling to Madley Environmental Centre for an exciting day linked to our Science topic 'Living Things and their Habitats.' The day will be comprised of lots of engaging, practical activities that will allow the children to learn in a hands-on manner about things that will be memorable and linked to their learning. The activities include pond dipping and other opportunities to learn about the environment around them. As it is in a wooded, grassy area, children will need to wear appropriate clothing (comfortable shoes, jogging bottoms/leggings, a waterproof coat). They will also need to bring a packed lunch / order a packed lunch from school, as we will be out for the full duration of the school day.

Parental Engagement:

This term, Year 5 will be holding a parental engagement based around how we teach written methods in maths. We will aim to demonstrate how we teach these to parents and carers in order to provide anyone who is interested with the tools to support the children with an approach consistent with what is completed in school.

Sports Day

Year 5 and 6 have their Sports Day on **Thursday 6th June @ 9.30am**. Parents/carers are welcome to attend. We looking forward to seeing you.

Dates for your diary:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Thursday 18 th April	Winning house reward afternoon (Hazel)
Monday 22 nd April	Whole school 'Earth Day' Children can wear GREEN and bring in a donation
Monday 29 th April	'Wear What You Like Day' to raise funds for school music – pupils to bring in £1
Monday 6 th May	May Bank Holiday
Tuesday 7 th May	5BT Forest School (PM)
Wednesday 8 th May	5BT Forest School (PM)
Friday 24 th May	Break up for half term
Half Term (27th-31st May)	
Thursday 6 th June	Sports Day (AM) 4/5B Forest School (PM)
Monday 10 th June	French Day
Wednesday 12 th June	Creation Project workshop at The Priory Church
Thursday 13 th June	Creation Concert (The Priory) 4.30pm
Friday 14 th June	5R Forest School (PM)
Tuesday 18 th June	Madley Environmental Study Centre Classes to be confirmed
Wednesday 19 th June	Madley Environmental Study Centre Classes to be confirmed
Friday 21 st June	5R Forest School (PM)
Tuesday 25 th June	Y5 Parental Engagement 2.15-3pm (Formal written arithmetic methods)
Wednesday 26 th June	4/5B Forest school (PM)
Friday 5 th July	LPS Carnival parade and Fete
Thursday 11 th July	Winning house reward afternoon
Friday 19 th July	End of term!

Date to be confirmed

4/5B Climate Change Workshop

Yours sincerely:

The Year 5 Team: Mrs Thomas, Mrs Brookes, Mr Rowntree, Miss Brookes, Mrs Mintoff