



MIDHURST C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL
Ashfield Road
Midhurst
West Sussex
GU29 9JX
Tel: 01730 813526 Fax: 01730 817233
e-mail: office@midhurst-pri.w-sussex.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr M. Barnes

12th September 2011

Dear parents/guardians,

The children have settled well into Year 5 and they have made a good, positive start to the new year. We are all getting used to our new classrooms and the library/ICT area.

This term the topic being studied by Years 5 and 6 is '**The Fun of the Fair**'. Below is a brief outline of our areas of study:

- **Science:** Forces – gravity, friction, upthrust, magnetism, air resistance.
- **Geography:** Debating 'Should there be a fair in Midhurst?'
- **History:** Fairs through the ages, group research and presentations.
- **Design Technology:** Designing and making a model of a carousel.
- **Art:** A range of art activities with a Fair theme, including Lowry's pictures, 'movement' in pictures, night time scenes, drip and splash techniques.
- **Religious Education:** Inspirational People
- **Information & Communication Technology:** Using search engines, creating and using databases.
- **Music:** Changing pitch, tempo, and dynamics. Using and creating graphic scores.
- **Physical Education:** Swimming (first half term), Invasion Games, Dance (second half term).
- **French:** Revising numbers and personal information, zoo animals.

In addition, maths and literacy lessons will be taught daily (linked to our topic work when appropriate). The children will have regular Guided Reading sessions, as well as other opportunities to practise reading skills by reading to adults in school. When you hear your child read at home, please remember to write in the red log book.

Homework will usually be set every Thursday or Friday (to be returned the following Tuesday). Subject areas for homework will vary – please support your child by checking that their homework is completed and ready to hand in by Tuesday. The children will also have regular spellings and times tables to learn – look out for these books in reading folders over the next week or two. Spelling tests will be on Mondays and tables tests will be on Tuesdays.

A Year 5 and 6 trip to Hollycombe Steam Collection has been arranged for **Thursday 6th October**. **If your child usually has school meals, please do not order a meal for that date.** Further details about the trip, including cost, will follow in the next week or two.

We hope to run swimming lessons this half-term, starting on Thursday 15th September, and then every Thursday whilst the weather permits. Please ensure your child has their swimming kit, including a swimming cap, in school on Thursdays. In addition, the children will have two P.E.

lessons per week. We will be doing dance on Mondays, and Games (with Mr Barnes) on Wednesdays. These days are occasionally swapped, so please ensure that your child has a named P.E. kit in school each day. The kit should include suitable footwear (plimsolls or trainers) and a pair of socks. Please remember, earrings need to be removed or covered with tape for P.E. lessons.

I look forward to seeing you at Parents Evening later in the term. If you need to contact me before then, I am available before school (8.40-8.50am) Tuesdays-Fridays, or after school (3.30-3.40pm) any day but Tuesdays.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P Aldren