



YEAR 5 TOPIC LETTER SUMMER TERM 2024

Wednesday 17th April 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Easter holidays – the weather was bit changeable but I have to say the rest was well earned and has left me rejuvenated for the home stretch! Pine Class have made a good start to the term and have been enthused by our new topic of 'THE MORE YOU LOOK THE MORE YOU SEE.' This is predominantly a humanities-based topic; studying Ancient Greece in history and looking at mapping and fieldwork skills in geography. A lot of our activities will be linked to both of these concepts, and where possible we will also link this with our work in reading and writing. In this topic letter I shall aim to outline our programme of study throughout the Summer Term and aim to clarify my expectations regarding homework and other routines. PE days for this term are now Tuesday and Friday – Tuesday with our Aspire coaches and Friday with me. On Monday afternoons, Mrs Hatch will continue to lead handwriting, RE and art, while I am out of class on leadership time.

Firstly, here is a brief outline of our areas of study:

- **Science:** Chemistry based looking at materials, separation and dissolving (my favourite!) Also, Biology based – Animals including humans – the excitement of puberty and changes!
- **History:** Ancient Greece and its legacy – what are the greatest achievements of Greek civilization and how do they still influence society today?
- **Geography:** Mapwork and Fieldwork based Geography including work on compasses, directions, sketch maps, OS maps and symbols. We will also be plotting and carrying out a journey across woodland/forest in the locality – the children will have to use maps to get us out of the middle!
- **Art:** Exploring Greek patterns and jar designs through printmaking. Discovering the Dutch graphic artist Escher through patterns and perspective.
- **Religious Education:** Understanding Christianity – Are freedom and justice important in the world? What do different religions and world views say? What does the Qur'an reveal to Muslims about Allah and his guidance?
- **Computing:** Our new software of Purple Mash – following Unit 5.3 iCalculate – involving use of spreadsheets and formulae to solve equations. We will also be budgeting and planning a Greek holiday – using the computer to calculate for us.
- **Music:** Charanga units covering: singing, playing, composing and performing. We will also be looking at notation. Alongside this a study of the history of music encompassing various great composers.

- **Physical Education:** Aspire on Tuesday and striking and fielding (predominantly rounders and cricket) with me on Friday afternoon.

In addition, **maths** and **literacy** lessons will be taught **daily** (linked to our topic work when appropriate). We aim to hear the children read once a week, more with certain children. This is usually done by our fantastic volunteer – Mr. Thomas and our teaching assistant, Miss Lewis. As well as other opportunities to practise reading skills through our work in class. When you hear your child read at home, please remember to write in the yellow homework diary. I ask that all children are heard by an adult at least once a week as this also can aid their overall understanding of a higher-level text. I have also asked the children to write in their log book if they read to themselves at home also, as many are very independent. I offer house points for those who have read at least five times a week, however, I will only dish out the house points if an adult has also signed the homework diary!

The children will have regular spellings and times tables to learn – these are set weekly. Spellings are given out on Friday and tested on the following Friday, while times-tables are tested every Thursday. We will also be setting homework as paper copies every Wednesday with it due in on Monday, Tuesday at the latest. Missed playtimes will be the sanction for homework which is not handed in.

| H/W | SET | DUE/TESTED ON |
|--------------------------|------------------|--|
| Spelling | <i>Friday</i> | <i>Friday</i> |
| X Tables | <i>Thursday</i> | <i>Thursday</i> |
| Revision Homework | <i>Wednesday</i> | <i>Monday</i> <i>(Tuesday at the latest!)</i> |

We are looking into the possibility of two different trips linked to our overall topic and will keep you posted regarding these in due course. I would like to remind everyone that the best way to support your child at home with learning is reading lots and encouraging use of online games such Times Tables Rock Stars and Spelling Frame for spelling games. My final reminder is one that the children seem to consistently forget about!! In order to access the school field at breaktimes, we ask that children ALWAYS bring a change of footwear, regardless of the weather or if it is a PE day.

By the time you receive this letter we will have completed the first week of term already! If there any further queries I am very happy to answer these and can usually be found in the classroom at the end of the day. I wish you a very safe and productive Summer Term and can assure you that we are ALL working very hard in class to prepare the children for next year. We are doing this in a way that still nurtures the children’s personal wellbeing and confidence.

With all my best wishes,



Mr. S. Ind

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Ind', located in the lower-left quadrant of the page.