



Class 5 Autumn 1 Term Newsletter 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Class 5! We are very pleased to be teaching Class 5 this year; Mrs Chadbourne is looking forward to getting to know you all and Mrs Rankin is excited to see how much you have grown and developed since she taught many of you in Year 3. We are looking forward to our year together. We have a really exciting year ahead of us with lots of exciting topics to explore. This newsletter will give you an insight into what we will be learning about this half term in each curriculum area. If you require any further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to send a message on Viva Exchange.

The Class will be taught by Mrs Chadbourne on Mondays and Tuesdays and Mrs Rankin on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Tuxford and Mrs Gough will work alongside the children at various points in the week too.

General information:

Please ensure that your child brings water in a labelled drinking bottle and that they have a healthy snack for morning break and/or afternoon break. If they bring it in a snack pot, please ensure these are named. Please no crisps, chocolate, sweets or snacks containing nuts!

All items of clothing - especially jumpers, cardigans and coats - should be named please.

Homework:

Spellings, reading and times table practice is expected and compulsory each week.

- **Topic:** A homework grid will soon be posted on Viva Exchange which the children are to complete over the course of this half-term. There will be various activities which are related to our learning this half-term. The children can choose their homework tasks and complete it over the next few weeks. I will be asking them to bring their completed work into school on **Monday 16th October**. The children will have the opportunity to showcase their work to the rest of the class.
- **Maths:** The children are encouraged to complete TT Rockstars each week to practise their times tables.
- **Spellings:** Every Monday the children will be given a new list of ten spellings. These will be differentiated according to the children's learning needs - your child will be told which group they are in. Please spend time practicing these as the children will be tested on them the following Monday. Spelling lists will be uploaded onto the Y5 Viva Exchange page.
- **Reading:** It is expected that the children do at least 4 reads per week with an adult. We appreciate that by this age your child may be able to read independently but there is a huge benefit from reading with adults, so we encourage this as much as possible. You could ask questions about the characters' feelings and actions and why they are doing things; you could tell them what words and phrases mean and even ask them to predict what might happen next. Each time you read with your child at home, please record this in their new reading record book. These record books will be checked each week, usually on a Friday and the number of reads will be noted down as a running record each time. Please ensure these record books are kept up to date and brought into school each day. We would love to see lots of children achieving their 100, 200 or even 300 reads this year! Aim high Class 5!

PE sessions:

- **Swimming:** - Every Wednesday afternoon we will be going to Southwell Leisure Centre for a swimming lesson. Children should wear their PE kit to school this day to make changing easier. Please follow the guidance sent out via the Y5 page regarding goggles, earrings and



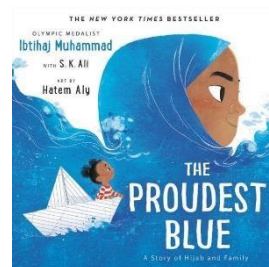
swimwear. It is advisable, as we progress further into the Autumn term, that children wear a fleece or coat as they feel the cold more with damp hair. These lessons start on Wednesday 13th September. If you can join us to help out with these visits, we'd love to have you with us - even if you can only help for a week here and there, every little helps!

- **PE in school:** the other PE session will be in school on a Thursday. These will be delivered by our specialised PE coaches. Please could children with long hair bring bobbles, or preferably, have their hair tied back on these days. Earrings must be removed for PE lessons however, if the children cannot remove them for themselves, we kindly ask them not wear them on PE days. If this is not possible, please could you send in tape/plasters for the children to wear over the earrings for the session. Children will need to come to school in their PE kits please.

Our Curriculum

For the first two weeks of the academic year, the whole school is focusing on 'The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family' by Ibtihaj Muhammad and S.K. Ali. This book promotes being proud of our identity and what makes us different.

In Class 5, we have begun by having lots of class discussions about what we can predict and infer from the illustrations. As we continue to work through the text, there will be various reading and writing opportunities for example, the children writing a diary entry as Asiya describing her first day of hijab. PSHE and art lessons will also be closely linked with this text during these first two weeks.



English: We will be focusing our writing and comprehension work around one key text this half term: Journey to Jo'Burg by Beverley Naidoo. The book tells the story of two South African children who embark alone on a long journey to find their mother, who works far from home. At the time the story takes place, South Africa is governed by a racially unjust system of laws called apartheid. We will be using this text as a focus for reading and writing opportunities. Children will have the chance to write for a range of purposes and in a variety of styles. Grammar and punctuation objectives will be embedded within English lessons.

Maths: Key mathematical concepts covered this term include place value, addition and subtraction and multiplication and division. Children will also be given plenty of opportunities to develop their mathematical reasoning skills.

Children will continue practicing their times tables to ensure they know the multiplication and corresponding division facts up to 12x12 fluently. Times Table Rock Stars is a fantastic website which children can use to practice their times tables through fun games and challenges!

History: The children will be learning about Benin - a non-European society that provides contrasts with British history. Benin offers an opportunity to make comparisons with British society at the time, when the Saxons, Vikings and Normans were ruling. Although this period is a thousand years ago, pupils will also be able to compare with the Tudors as the kingdom of Benin was not really established until the 1200s. Later Benin was involved in the slave trade.

Science: Children will learn about the properties of materials and investigate reversible and irreversible changes to materials. They will explore dissolving, evaporation and separating materials and have the opportunity to carry out fair testing in their scientific investigations.



Art and Design: We will be exploring the creative work of Zaha Hadid - an Iraqi-British architect who in 2004, won the Pritzker Architecture Prize and became the first woman in the world to receive this prize. Her work has received international acclaim and is truly inspiring!

Computing: In computing we will be learning how to code. We will be using the Purple Mash app for this.

RE: This term Class 5's RE theme is 'How can following God bring freedom and justice?' A key part of RE will be giving children the chance to reflect, pose and answer interesting and thoughtful questions. We will explore the ways Christians use some examples of Bible texts to guide them in facing life's challenges and consider how these can be applied to our own lives.

PSHE: This half term we will be focusing on Families and Relationships - Children will develop an understanding of families, including marriage; learning that dealing with issues can strengthen a friendship; exploring the impact of bullying and what influences a bully's behaviour; learning to appreciate our individual positive attributes.

Music: The lessons will be inspired by the music of South and West Africa and children will learn to sing a traditional African song called Shosholoza. They will use vocals and percussion instruments to perform as an ensemble.

We hope that this letter has been informative and gives you an overview of what we are planning to do during the autumn term. Keep an eye out for further information on the whole school newsletters but please let us know if you have any further questions and we will be more than happy to help.

Kind regards,
Mrs Chadbourne and Mrs Rankin