



LITTLE KINGSHILL COMBINED SCHOOL
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WHERE LEARNING HAS NO LIMITS

9th September 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome to Year 5! We have a busy, yet rewarding year ahead. This is an exciting time with challenges and opportunities throughout the year, including a trip to River Dart and so much more! This letter is intended to be a guide to some of the regular class routines in order that you can help support your child through this year in school.

Weekly Timetable

Your child will receive a copy of the current timetable for this term as soon as it's been finalised. This year Madame Al' Kattan will be teaching French and Mr Mullins will continue to take the children for games on a Friday. The children will also have dance this term on a Monday morning.

Curriculum Topics:

English

- Story openers
- Descriptive writing about settings, character and atmosphere
- Integrating dialogue to convey character
- Evaluating and editing texts
- Narrative texts
- Recounts
- Classic drama – two of Shakespeare's plays
- Reading and comprehension skills

Design Technology

- Designing and constructing a kite

Maths

- Place Value
- Mental and written methods of addition and subtraction
- Mental and written methods of Multiplication and division
- Problem solving using the above operations and methods

Art

- Tudor Art
- Explorer Art

Science

- Earth and Space

Music

- Charanga

Computing

- Computer game development- writing and debugging programs

R.E.

- Places of Worship
- Religion in the Community

History

- The Tudors

P.E.

- Dance/gymnastics
- Invasion games- football/ hockey/ tag rugby

P.S.H.E.

- Rules, responsibility, respect for others and friendship

Geography

- The UK

P.E. and Games Lessons

For the autumn term, our first P.E. lesson of the week will be on Monday when the focus will be on dance. These sessions will be led by an external sports teacher. Games lessons will take place on a Tuesday afternoon with Mr. Mullins where children will require trainers or football boots, particularly when the weather becomes wetter and the field conditions become muddy and slippery. The onset of colder days will also mean that a tracksuit will become a necessary part of their P.E. kit.

Homework

Your child will be receiving regular homework tasks related to the topics being covered in each area of the curriculum. This will help to consolidate what is covered in school and enable parents to become involved and informed on what is happening within the classroom. The Weekly Bulletin sent on a Monday outlines homework for the coming week. Most homework tasks will be set to be completed within two days, allowing children who may have questions regarding the work set to seek assistance while encouraging a degree of routine. In line with





government guidance, Year 5 homework tasks should take approximately 2.5 to 3 hours per week. As a guide, the following schedule for homework will be followed as closely as possible to aid continuity:

Monday Spellings. Spelling sentences to be written in their homework book and given in on Wednesday. Spellings to be learned for testing on Friday. You may wish to help your child follow a Look-Cover-Write-Check method for learning these words.

Tuesday English. To be handed in Thursday

Wednesday Miscellaneous (History, Geography, Art) to be handed in the following Wednesday.

Friday Maths. To be handed in Monday.

Instances where homework is late will be recorded. If three pieces of work are late during a half term period, the child will lose a break time in school. It is expected that homework is completed to the high standard that is required in lessons. If this is not achieved, the child may be asked to redo the task in their own time in school. In addition to given homework tasks, please remember to encourage your child to read regularly at home. Children will also have access to books from the classroom and library.

Equipment

Although we do provide equipment in school, it is more convenient for children to have their own basics in a pencil case. This should include items such as writing pens (Berol or cartridge pens are preferred, but not biros), writing and colouring pencils, eraser, glue stick, sharpener and ruler (preferably 30cm). For maths, a protractor and calculator would also be useful additions.

Absences

If, for whatever reason, your child is absent from school, please could you inform the school by telephone before 9:15am on the day of absence and in writing when he/she returns to school. Your assistance in this is greatly appreciated.

Water Bottles

It is very important that your child is sufficiently hydrated during the school day and therefore they may bring a water bottle into the classroom. Please ensure that these have a sports style cap in order to avoid accidental spillages while these are at children's desks. The bottles should also be transparent.

Residential Visit to River Dart

Although this may seem a long way off, it will come around sooner than you think. A meeting regarding this visit will take place on Wednesday 18th September at 4.30pm. This will be run by Roger Sell from CRS Adventures and will provide information about the trip.

Trips

As part of an introduction to Shakespeare, there will be a workshop visit to school by the Young Shakespeare Company on 15th and 16th October (the specific date for year 5 is yet to be confirmed), followed by the opportunity to go and watch a professional performance of the play at the Wylllyotts Theatre in Potters Bar on Monday November 11th. This project has proved highly successful and enjoyable in previous years as an introduction to the work of the bard. More details to follow but the approximate cost of the trip is £20.

Important Events / Dates for your diary

18th September, 4:30pm – River Dart information meeting

19th September, 6.15-6.30pm – Meet the Teacher & Meet Mr Dodd (new Head Teacher) 6.30-7.00pm

30th September – Individual / family photographs.

10th October – Harvest festival, performed to the WI.

15th or 16th October – 'Macbeth' workshop.

21st October – Walk to School Week.

22nd and 24th October – Parents Evening

25th October – Last day of the half term, finishing at 3.15pm

11th November – Performance of 'Macbeth' at The Wylllyotts Theatre



27th November – Carol Service at St. Peter and St. Paul's church, Great Missenden
29th November – Christmas Fayre
10th and 11th December – KS2 Christmas Pantomime performance
13th December – Christmas Jumper Day
16th December – Image Theatre Company, performing 'Scrooge' to the whole school
18th December – Christmas Parties
19th December – Last day of term, finishing at 1pm

Parent consultations

Formal Parents' Evenings will be held during the week prior to the October half term (on Tuesday 22nd and on Thursday 24th). If you should have any issues to discuss while your child is in year 5, please arrange an appointment through the school office. Mr Tapping runs the Cross Country Club after school on Wednesday and our staff meetings are usually after school on Mondays, but any other day after school should be fine.

Walking Home

It is understandable that as the children move up the school the number of parents allowing their child to walk home alone increases. If this applies to you, please can your child bring in a signed note, so that I can ensure children are dismissed from school safely. This also applies if your child is going home with other people's parents or another adult from the norm.

Many thanks in advance for all your support and co-operation, and I look forward to a successful, happy and exciting year together.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R and Mrs J Tapping