

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 5. We hope you have had a lovely summer holiday and that your child has settled back into school and is enjoying being in their new class. We have very much enjoyed getting to know your children over the past week. We are particularly impressed with how well they have remembered the Amherst rules and behaviour. This letter is intended to answer some of the questions you may have at this stage of term. We will be able to expand on this information at the 'Meet the Teacher' evening on Wednesday **20th September**. This session will be an opportunity to meet the Year 5 teachers and to find out important information such as routines, expectations and exciting events in the year ahead. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to make an appointment via the school office if you need to see us.

Dates for Your Diary

20th September – 'Meet the Teacher' evening
4th October – School Photographs
12th October – Year 5 trip to Museum of Kent Life
20th October – Inset Day
19th October – Term Ends
30st October – Term Begins
17th November (2.45pm) – Open Afternoon
28th and 30th November – Parents' Evening
6th December – School Pantomime trip
15th December – End of Term

Topics

This list is not definitive but it gives you an idea of the areas being addressed this term. In order to aid your child's research, our topics for the autumn term are:

- **Literacy:**
 - *Street Child* (Berlie Doherty – linking to our current topic, Victorians)
 - *Victorian texts*

Feel free to purchase a copy of these texts for your child to bring in to school, but please wait to read them until we have introduced them in class.

- **Maths:** Properties of number, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions.
- **Science:** Earth, Sun and Moon, Properties of Materials.
- **History:** The Victorians
- **Computing:** Internet Safety, Coding, use of Microsoft PowerPoint
- **RE:** Green religion. What do religious and nonreligious worldviews teach about caring for the Earth?

Homework

Maths and English: Each week, Mental Arithmetic books will be handed out on **Thursdays**, to be returned at the latest by the following **Monday**. We ask for two tests to be completed (unless otherwise stated.) It is imperative that the children complete any corrections each week.

In addition, Literacy work will be handed out on **Thursdays**. This Literacy homework should be completed and returned at the latest by the following **Tuesday**. MA and English homework should take 2 hours to complete in total.

Spelling: Your child should practise the 10 spelling words for the Weekly Spelling Test the following Friday. We will expect to see evidence of spelling practice in the back of their English Homework Books (we will show examples of this at the Meet the Teacher event). These 10 words will be drawn from these sources:

- The spelling rule taught in class that week in our spelling lesson.
- The National Curriculum's Year 5/6 'statutory word list'.

In addition, there will be a challenge section to the spelling tests made up of words taken from 11+ spelling lists and topic specific lists.

Reading: Your child should be encouraged to read for at least half an hour daily whether independently or with an adult. The children must record the book title and the pages read in their planners along with at least one detailed comment per week. A parent or guardian must sign the reading each week. **Planners** are due in on **Fridays** and will also be used throughout the week, so must be in school every day.

School Equipment

All children this term will need:

- A good quality fountain pen with plenty of spare blue ink cartridges
- Compass
- Protractor
- Multi-coloured fine liners
- Glue
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Spare whiteboard pens
- A calculator

They should also have a pocket dictionary and thesaurus to support their literacy work. Please ensure your children have everything they need and that all equipment is labelled.

Games and PE

Children should have their PE kit in school every day; please ensure all items are named.

- Amherst or plain navy t-shirt, shorts and white socks
- Trainers (in wet weather, you will need clean trainers or plimsolls for indoor sports)
- Swimming trunks for boys / one piece for girls; swimming hats, goggles and a towel for everyone
- **Optional:** Navy blue school sweatshirt and navy blue jogging trousers for cold weather
- **Will advise when needed:** Football/rugby boots (soft studs), shin pads and knee-high navy socks

5A	5J	5HR
Swimming on a Tuesday	Swimming on a Tuesday	Swimming on a Tuesday
Games on a Thursday	Games on a Thursday	Games on a Thursday

The days for Games may swap later this term, since each class will for a time have the opportunity to work with specialist coaches.

The Year 5 staff are very much looking forward to a busy and productive year with your children.

Many thanks for your support,

Mrs A Archer

Miss P Jones

Mr S Hafford-Robson