



Year 5 Newsletter Autumn Term 2020

English

Our English curriculum this term will include weekly creative writing, comprehension, grammar, punctuation and spelling exercises. Spellings will be tested every Tuesday. We will also look at writing for different purposes and will be developing key skills in creative work, such as writing detailed character descriptions. We will be writing in a variety of genres - including persuasive and informative - so please encourage the girls to read a wide range of texts! Our class reader for this term is 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty, which links to our History topic.

Mathematics

This term, we will continue the 'Inspire Maths' scheme based on successful Singaporean techniques. As in previous years, we will begin with 'place value' learning and then cover other mathematical areas such as fractions and word problems. Please encourage your daughter to continue developing her fluency with times tables and appreciate that "maths is all around us" by relating time, measure and money to 'real-life' situations. We will also continue to practise the recall of multiplication facts, with the aid of the 'Times Tables Rockstars' app, and complete regular mathematical investigations.



Science

Our two topics for this term will be 'Sound' and 'Sun, Earth, Moon and Space'. Children will develop investigative skills by taking part in a range of exciting and challenging practical activities which will be consolidated through written work. These topics will require different styles of recording and presentation.

PSHE

This year, the girls will be introduced to Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE. Jigsaw is a progressive and spiral scheme of learning. This term our themes are 'Being in My World' and 'Celebrating Differences' (including anti-bullying).

Being in My World: the girls will think and talk about the year ahead, goals they could set for themselves as well as the challenges they may face. They will learn and talk about their rights and responsibilities as a member of their class, school, wider community and the country they live in. The girls will talk about their own behaviour and its impact on a group as well as choices, rewards, consequences and the feelings associated with each. They will also discuss democracy, how it benefits the school and how they can contribute towards it.

Celebrating Differences: the girls will explore culture and cultural differences. They will link this to racism, talking about what it is and how to be aware of their own feelings towards people from different cultures. They will discuss rumour spreading and name-calling. The girls will also talk about



direct and indirect bullying as well as ways to encourage their peers to not to use bullying behaviours. They will talk about happiness regardless of material wealth and respecting other people's cultures.

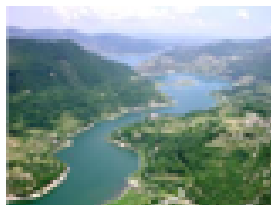
History

We go back in time to study the period 1837 - 1901, the Victorian era. Examining both primary and secondary sources, we will look in detail at the life of Queen Victoria, schools and education. We will go on to investigate conditions in the workhouse and compare life for the rich and poor in Victorian society.



Geography

This term we will be learning about some of the major rivers of the world. We will examine the water cycle, river features, settlements, transport and environmental issues concerning rivers. We will use the Junior School grounds and our outdoor learning areas to build models of geographical features and observe features of erosion.



Art

We will learn linear perspective techniques in order to make their drawings appear three-dimensional and more realistic. The girls will explore techniques that will make the subjects in a drawing appear to recede into distant space, as well as creating the illusion that the viewer is above or below the subject of the drawing. In the second half term, linking to the Year 5 pupils' topic on *Rivers*, we will be investigating the theme of water in art, focusing on how the subject has been tackled by well known artists in history and using this to inspire us to create our own water effects.



DT

This term, we would normally bake bread in Year 5; however, we used the opportunity of lockdown to dabble in some baking, so there is a new 'healthy eating' unit planned for later on this year instead. This half term, we shall complete the pop-up books we started in the Spring Term of Year 4. We put so much effort into planning these and building the linkages and levers that we are thrilled for the chance to complete them. After the half term break, we shall explore bridges and how structures are reinforced and strengthened. This also complements the pupils' *Rivers* topic.

RE

This term we will discuss Christian and Jewish beliefs and practices. Through our discussions, we will explore rules for living. Towards the end of the term, the girls will focus on light as a symbol in both religions.

Drama

In Drama this term, the focus will be on improvisation. Following on from this, in the second half of the term, the girls will use hot-seating, freeze-frame and role play to explore Victorian childhood.

Computing

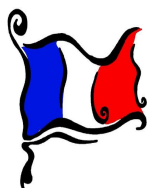
The girls begin each half term with an e-Safety focus. We will outline the range of ways to report concerns and inappropriate behaviour online and discuss how we must take responsibility for our own actions online, regardless of what other people are doing. The girls will develop skills in graphic

design before creating, accessing and searching databases. Across the term, the girls will also use IT to access activities related to many different areas of the curriculum.

Modern Languages



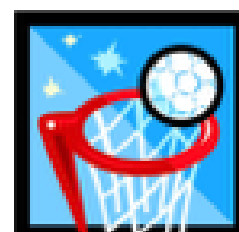
In Spanish, the term begins with general revisions of the learning acquired so far. The girls will then move onto simple calculations based on the five times table and they will learn how to ask for and give the time. They will also extend their food and drink vocabulary.



In French, after some revisions of greetings and classroom commands, the girls will learn to describe their town. They will design and produce a description of an imaginary town including means of transportation and opinions. The girls will end the term on a festive note!

PE

In Physical Education all students in Year 5 will be completing units of work in netball, cross country, volleyball and football. They will be developing existing skills relevant to each sport, whilst broadening their knowledge of the rules of the game. We will also focus on which components of fitness are required for specific sports. In each lesson, students will be expected to understand and demonstrate the importance of a structured warm up and cool down, and know how to participate safely.



Music

The girls will go on a wonderful journey to Space. They will undertake a detailed study of The Planet Suite by Holst which eventually leads to Celia Derbyshire (Dr Who) Hans Zimmer and John Williams (Close Encounters and ET) further developing their understanding of the elements of music. Our Victorian topic will be enhanced by songs.

Please do look carefully in the weekly Bulletin for updates relating to individual instrumental music lessons. Your daughter's Individual timetable will be emailed to you before lessons begin.



Please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss any concerns regarding your daughter.

We very much look forward to working with you and your daughters this year.

Miss McGinety and Miss Snowdowne
Year 5 Class Teachers