



# Year 5

## Half Termly Update

### Spring Term 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope your children had a restful holiday and have come back ready to work hard. Year 5 are working really hard at aiming for our attendance target so please ensure your child is in school every day, on time, so that they can learn and fulfil their enormous potential! Throughout the term, the children will continue to receive homework on Fridays (please see homework books for grids and weekly spellings). It's really important that your child reads every day at home, as reading is the biggest indicator of success later in life. Please help them sign their reading diary every day. Doodle Maths and Spellings are also part of your child's homework and will be checked every Wednesday. Year 5 are lucky to have the opportunity to attend some social action workshops and coaching sessions at Arsenal this term. Each class will be going for 3 sessions at the Arsenal Hub.

#### English -Reading

This term, we are reading *There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom* by Louis Sachar. Firstly, the children will become familiar with the characters in the novel. The children will learn to use clues in the text to infer and help them discuss what the characters say and do.

We will discuss author's choice of language to describe the characters and give our opinion using evidence from the text. We will answer retrieval questions and discuss and summarise events.

#### English -Writing

We are starting the year by completing our monologue based on the epic poem – the Highwayman. Our later writing tasks will be based around the class novel. We will start by looking at the features of a playscript and then write and perform our own script based on the text.

We will then complete a character comparison in English and then hot seat in character to understand them better. This will help them to delve deeper into the mind of the character by answering questions in role. We will also write an email in role to one of the other characters in the book.

#### Maths

The pupils will begin maths in the new year by reviewing multiplication methods and learning about how to calculate with fractions; we will learn about equivalent fractions and how to place fractions on a number line. We will be learning about mixed numbers and improper fractions and how to use them in order to calculate with fractions. We will then move on to start our next unit: 'Statistics' where we will be learning to draw, read and interpret line graphs.

### Science

We are learning about properties and changes of materials this term. We will describe a material's properties and explain the uses of different materials based on their properties. We will learn about dissolving and solutions. We will identify different ways materials can be mixed together use sieving, filtering, evaporating and other processes to separate mixtures of materials. We will also identify different ways materials can be mixed together. We will also think about the terms melting and dissolving as well as investigate factors which affect the speed of something dissolving. We will also learn about reversible and irreversible changes.

### History

In history, we will focus on the time period after the Anglo-Saxons (our last history topic) - the Vikings. We will look at who the Vikings were, their culture, and important battles in the Viking period. The children will construct a timeline to understand how the Viking period carried on from the Anglo-Saxon reign. Whilst learning about Viking battles, the children will have a chance to create their own long boat and Viking jewellery.

### P.E.

P.E. will continue being delivered by Ellis during our Wednesday lessons. This term, the children will focus on striking and footwork, whilst continuing to develop key skills, such as communication and team work. Children will also be learning dance and gymnastics on Fridays in their groups throughout the term.

### R.E

This term, we will be looking at God and why people believe in God. We will be exploring creation and suffering through debate and discussion. At the end of this term, we will be planning and publishing our own newspaper article on God.

### Music

The children continue to receive music lessons from our music teacher, Lena. The children have been learning to compose music. Each class will have two half terms of music over the year.

### Homework

Weekly spelling will be given on Friday every week. Please practise the spellings with your child. Doodle Maths and Spelling homework should be completed with regular practise too. Reading should be completed every night. Optional history homework is sent out with a choice of three activities weekly. Science projects this term should be focusing on properties and changes of material.