

**Year 5 – Summer Term 1 Newsletter**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all looking forward to the warmer weather: it will definitely help with the windows remaining open! We have a busy and exciting term ahead.

In Autumn, we studied a book called Percy Jackson and The Lightning Thief. The whole class loved it and it inspired some of the class to read other books in the series – which was fantastic!

This term’s English focus is on the book *Holes* by Louis Sachar. PLEASE, can I ask that your child DOESN’T read the book at home or watch the film, as it will spoil their enjoyment of the lessons.

Having missed months of in-school lessons, I will do my best to make sure that children catch up on any lost learning, (and practise remembering the things they have been taught before).

Next year (Sept) your child will be in secondary school; with Year 6 SATs expected to be as normal next year, I want to give Class 5 every possible opportunity to do well.

With that in mind, I would like to highlight that there is still an expectation for each child to:

* read 4 times per week
* practise their times tables using TT Rockstars (particularly if they are not secure)
* practise their spellings each week

These have been expectations since Year 4, and so in addition, I am now also going to be sending out regular weekly homework to *practise remembering* aspects of English and Maths.

**This term’s topics:**

**Benin -** A core focus this term is on the Kingdom of Benin in Africa. This empire ruled for longer than both the Roman and Greek empires; the kingdom was famous for its art, technology, science, astronomy and architecture. Its walls stretched for 10,000 miles and took 600 years to build!

**Maths** – After we have completed our study of geometry, we will progress to position & direction, and measurements (including of time) If your child isn’t secure in telling the time, please can you support them with this prior to our unit of study as it will be a huge help to their learning.

**Writing** – We will be using a range of text types that have been covered before in Years 4 & 5. Each text type will be brief, fast paced – sometimes only last 1or 2 days - and expectations will be high. If children are off school it will have an impact upon learning, so please ensure they are in school each day, and on time (unless it is essential for them not to be).

**Reading** – Also focused on Holes as mentioned above.

**Science** – We will be exploring materials and their properties: understanding what makes good insulation (electrical and thermal), as well as exploring dissolving, mixtures and irreversible change.

**Art –** This term we will be looking at the living artist Jo Bradney, and developing our painting skills.

As always, if you have any concerns or questions about any aspects of school – please get in touch.

Carl Bown

Year 5 Teacher