



Year 5 – Spring 2 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

We have reached the half-way point in the year, and I have seen some great progress with how the class as a whole are maturing and becoming more reflective, active and responsible learners.

Below is an overview of what we have to look forward to this half term:

In English, we will revisit last term's topic of Benin, using our knowledge to help us produce a balanced argument on whether the looted Benin Bronzes should be given to Nigeria.

Later, we will also revisit the topic of Ancient Greece, and children will showcase their learning with a Non-Chronological (not in time order) report about that period in history.

In Maths, our primary focus will be on fractions & decimals. This is such a key part of mathematics that we will be spending much of the term exploring and understanding it more fully.

Science will include the completion of our look at 'forces' followed by researching the lifecycles of various animals.

In RE we will be explore the concepts which surround Easter in Christianity which also link to sacrifice and salvation.

Our Geography focus is the Alps and alpine region. Children will get to know which countries the mountain range spans (hint, there are 8 – why don't you challenge yourself to see if you know which they are?), how it was formed and some of the key features linked to this part of Europe. At the end of the unit we are going to design our own app to inform tourists about the region – which also links to our Computing topic for the term.

PE is on Mondays and Fridays (Gymnastics & Dance) - so trainers and plain-coloured indoor clothing please.

In Art, we shall be looking at Sculpture and 3D Installations focusing on the artist Cai Guo-Qiang.

We will explore healthy choices and the effects of smoking and alcohol on the body in Personal Development (PD - previously PSHE).

I'd also like to remind everyone that **reading is the primary source of homework** – regular reading leads to better life chances and careers. **5 times per week is the minimum** and I expect children to bring in their **reading diaries every day**, so this can be monitored.

Finally just another reminder, Class Dojo is the easiest way to get in touch, but I'm also usually available at the end of a school day if you need to chat but please wait at the bottom playground until I have dismissed all of the children first.

Best Wishes

Carl Bown

Year 5 Teacher