

Dear Parents and Carers.

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a fantastic Summer! I am excited to be back after my maternity leave and get to know my new class.

We are about to enter a new school year which will be full of new learning and opportunities. As we start the year with a fresh new start for all, I hope the children are ready to enter Year 5 and 6 ensuring that they are ready to work hard and achieve their best. All staff have high expectations for our learning journey together as well as the behaviour of all.

This term we will continue to do PE on Wednesdays and Fridays, so please ensure your child is in PE kit on these days (beginning Friday 4th September). For the safety of your child in PE, children with long hair should have it tied back and any earrings should be removed prior to school or, if this is not possible, they will be covered with medical tape for the PE session.

Homework will be issued on a Friday and should be returned on a Wednesday. For Year 5 this will be directly linked to learning within the classroom for Maths and English each week. For Year 6 this will be SATs homework using usually 3 different CGP books with a couple of pages in each. It is vital that children TRY to complete their homework where possible with support from parents.

Your child will be bringing home a reading book to read at home, please ensure this is returned to school every day so they are ready for use in class. Please listen to your child read or share a book with your child every day and record this within their reading log. Please could you also ensure that any extra equipment your child requires, such as glasses, is brought to school each day. However, children DO NOT need to bring in any equipment for their pencil cases such as pens, their own pencil etc as we are unable to ensure these items do not go missing or get damaged.

Our Learning

In English we will be reading *Clockwork* by Phillip Pullman and exploring the themes and unique structure. We will also be exploring different traditional tales to create a non-chronological report about different villains. Before moving on to explore explanation texts.

In Maths our focus for this half term will be exploring place value with numbers up to 10 million, then we will be exploring different types of numbers such as prime numbers. Later in the term, we will be learning about fractions and looking at the four operations including learning long multiplication and division. It is essential that children have a strong understanding of the multiplication tables so please do continue to use Times Table Rockstars to support this knowledge.

In History we will be learning about slavery in our MAAFA topic. This will focus on slavery within Africa and then lead us through how this came to be abolished.

In Geography our topic is *Our Changing World* where we will explore geographical features, time zones and then explore climate change and the impact of this.

In Art we will revisit tints, tones and shades before then exploring black artists linked to our MAAFA topic.

In D&T we are exploring Food for Life, where we will create healthy meals and understand the difference between processed and whole foods. Children will be encouraged to try new foods, but it will be their choice if they do try these.

In Science we are exploring the circulatory system. We will look at how the heart works, the components that support this system and how this links to exercise and heart rate. As part of this learning, children will be given the opportunity to dissect a heart. Again, children will be encouraged to take part but will also be able to observe if they prefer.

I am excited to start the year and explore our exciting topics together. As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch with any questions, queries or concerns.

Mrs Crane