

St John's CE Primary School Year 5 Autumn Term Forecast 2024

Welcome back to school and to a brand new year - and welcome to Year 5! We hope you all had a safe and relaxing summer. Our primary focus, particularly in the first couple of weeks, is to settle the children back into school life, ensuring they feel comfortable and secure so that they can build a solid foundation for a successful year with us. Outlined below is some information regarding skills and topics which Year 5 will be covering during the Autumn term.

English

In English, we will cover a range of texts in order to support the children's learning. The texts we will be studying together are: *When we walked on the moon* which tells the story of the Apollo space missions. The children will be looking at the features of diary entries and then writing their own mission log in role as Neil Armstrong. We will also be working on our narrative writing throughout this unit. After half term we will be looking at 'Farther' by Grahame Baker-Smith and will be working on settings and writing letters.

Reading

Across the school we are continuing to provide extra opportunities for the children to practise and extend their skills in reading. This includes our whole school initiative: DEAR (Drop Everything And Read). During these sessions the children will read a book of their choice.

Please continue to read for at least 20 minutes each day with your children to further support this work. Our class text is 'A kind of Spark' by Elle McNicoll and we will be looking at comprehension techniques as we read this together.

Spelling

The focus for spelling will centre around the Year 5 and 6 key words but will also include revision of Years 3 and 4 key words. The autumn term will focus on: revising strategies used for learning spellings. We will learn Words with endings that sound like/shuhs/ spelt with -cious, -ious and -tious; words with the short vowel sound /i/ spelt with y and homophones & near homophones. In addition to this, there will be an expectation for children to develop their independence, by identifying for themselves words they are consistently spelling incorrectly, and use various strategies to support them in learning these trickier words. In class the children will be taught a range of strategies, choosing the ones that suit and support them best, according to what type of a learner they are.

Maths

In Maths this term we will be working on improving the children's confidence and their approach to using different strategies when solving word problems. Children will be given many opportunities to reinforce and extend their abilities to answer mathematical questions efficiently. We will be covering: place value within 1,000,000; four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and fractions. Please ensure your child completes their mathematics set work but also uses all the websites to practise their mental maths skills. They should also make full use of their ActiveLearn login to play the games allocated to them.

Science

We will begin by studying forces. The children will have practical opportunities to investigate forces and develop their science skills of predicting, recording and concluding as part of these investigations. After half term we will be looking at the Earth in space building on our English unit. As part of this work I have arranged a full day workshop for the class which will be happening in October as a stimulus for the learning after half term.

Art

Ms Geldart will be leading the Art sessions. The work will link in with our RE and creative curriculum. This project provides opportunities to analyse and create artwork inspired by these topics. They will be designing and block printing Christian symbols using string. They will be studying landscape painting and learning about tints, tones and shades.

Compass for Life

We will be beginning to plot our C4L journey on a map throughout this term and considering what our big dream- Super North Star- is. Then we will move onto thinking about strategies to help us reach our goal.

PSHE

This term the class will be learning to understand their emotions and explore a variety of tools that can help them manage difficult emotions. They will develop their growth mindset; the idea that we all have the ability to learn, achieve our goals, make mistakes and improve. We aim to encourage children to love challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort, and keep on learning. We will also look at how lifestyle choices contribute to health and how we can maintain healthy habits.

RE

In R.E. we will be learning about and discussing the miracles of Jesus. We will be looking at how art and music convey Christmas. Year 5 will take the lead in performing the Nativity this year.

Music

In Music this year, we will be listening to and appraising many pieces of music from particular genres alongside learning and performing our own songs. As a class, we will regularly be singing as part of being us together as a team, with a focus on singing in 3-part harmony. We will also be preparing for our Nativity performance in December (details to follow nearer the time).

PE

Games this year will take place on Wednesday afternoons with Ms Brannan. Swimming will take place on Monday afternoons. The lessons will begin with a fitness test and cross country. With a further 4 or so weeks of netball.

Please ensure that your child arrives in the correct PE kit every Wednesday and has appropriate swimming kit on a Monday.

Computing

We will be learning how to design and programme a character game on scratch.

The children will have regular access to the school's class set of Chromebooks for use across the curriculum over the week.

Wider Curriculum

Our topic for the first term will be 'Dynamic Dynasties' We will use a range of historical sources or artefacts to build a picture of a historical events and people from 'Ancient China' The children will carry out a an in-depth study of the characteristics and importance of a past or ancient civilisation or society (people, culture, art, politics, hierarchy). They will also look into the enquiry 'What legacy of Ancient China still remains to this day?'

Homework

Predominantly, homework assignments will be issued using Google Classroom. Homework will consist of work related to English and Maths that has been covered in class including Mathletics. Spelling and grammar-related homework will go out every Thursday and will be due in on a Thursday. There will be a weekly spelling test on a Thursday. The children will be given tasks to complete

related to our Wider Curriculum topic of 'Dynamic Dynasties" - this may involve an element of choice and will sometimes include practical activities such as art/craft. At times children may receive some work related to other subjects. For some tasks the children will be allowed a longer time to complete them but this will be stated on google classroom assignments.

Ways to help your children

Read, read and read again! Let your child read silently to themselves, read to you, to other family members and also please let them see you read whenever possible; this is so valuable as a model for them. Encourage your child to read regularly from a wide variety of books of different genres and authors. This will help develop their comprehension and fluency when reading. Ask the children to focus on how the author writes, their choice of words and language; in doing so this will help improve their writing. It is also important to talk about books with your child to deepen their understanding and promote their comprehension skills. It would also be helpful if you could support your child in identifying spelling errors they consistently make so that they can practise learning them using methods from their toolkits they will learn with us in school.

Practise mental maths wherever possible: when shopping, when cooking/baking, walking to school etc! If your child still doesn't know all their times tables, please encourage them to practise them as often as possible so that it doesn't inhibit their mental maths skills.

Useful websites for this term are:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z4qtqfr>

https://cdn.oxfordowl.co.uk/2019/08/29/13/56/09/5a42eb6a-f57f-4dc4-a66e-bd4c5e27e4b7/SpellingWordList_Y5-6.pdf

<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0> (active learn games)

<https://explorer1.jpl.nasa.gov/galleries/earth-from-space/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z7jvf82>

Thank you all in advance for your support. We are excited about the term ahead and hope you are too. We are looking forward to getting to know your children and supporting them in all areas over the coming year. Please do not hesitate to contact us for anything, however small.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Horne, Mrs Mariou ☺