



Welcome back to school and welcome to Year 5!

We have been looking forward to saying that for quite some time now..... Firstly, we would like to say a big well done to the children. They have all settled into new routines and new classrooms very quickly. We are so pleased with how sensible and responsible they have been over the last couple of weeks as we have all been getting used to new routines and plenty of handwashing!

Throughout school during the month of September, we are following a 'Recovery Curriculum' devised by the Darlington Educational Psychology service. The curriculum gives the children plenty of time to get to know staff, get to know each other again and talk about their thoughts, feelings and experiences over the past few months. We will start to introduce learning that is more formal gradually so that the children become accustomed once more to what it means to learn and how to learn. Using this approach, we hope that the children feel empowered to learn and are ready to face the challenges that a new year group provides. We are aware that some children will have gaps in their learning from Year 4 and we will be addressing any missed learning as it arises throughout the year.



During the Autumn term in Year 5 the children will be studying a broad and balanced curriculum.



In Maths we shall focus on place value and number work including times tables and their associated facts. English will have a focus on reading skills and reading for enjoyment, grammar, spelling and sentence construction alongside handwriting. We have just started to read *Around the World in 80 days* in Guided Reading and the children are already enthralled by this classic adventure! Speaking of adventure, the Vikings and *Fantastic Journeys* are our units of study in history and Geography where we will look at timelines, primary sources, biomes, time zones and much more..... The Earth, Sun and Moon and forces will be our learning in science. We will continue to use the recovery curriculum in PSHCE as well as Health and Wellbeing and Body Image. In PE, children will take part in invasion games and gymnastics with a focus on fitness and enjoyment. Islam will be our focus in RE and in Art the children will be investigating Cityscapes using different mediums. Computing will be coding as well as technology supporting other areas of the curriculum. This year we are also going to be studying Spanish as our modern foreign language; this is a whole school initiative.



In Year 5 we like to encourage and reward our children for their hard work and great attitude. The children will collect stars, which they can exchange for a variety of rewards throughout the year that the children themselves will have decided upon. In Year 5, the children will also receive Golden Time every week as a reward for completing homework tasks, reading at home and wearing the correct PE kit on the correct day.

We hope this reward will help to prepare children for life after Whinfield where they will have to be organised with these tasks.

Just a few reminders:

Teaching in Year 5 are Mrs Barker Jones and Mrs Bowe, Mrs Richardson and Mr Legg who are supported by Mrs Fowle and Mrs Pentland with Miss Fishlock in the afternoons.

PE days are Monday and Friday 5B, Monday and Wednesday 5R, Wednesday and Friday 5L. Children are to come to school wearing their PE kit. Trainers, plain red t-shirt, dark tracksuit bottoms/joggers or dark shorts with a jumper/hoodie – preferably red.

Children will be given a set of spellings each Tuesday to learn for the following Tuesday. The words will be a mixture of spelling patterns and key words from the Year 3/4 list initially then progressing to the Year 5/6 list. Other homework will be set as the term progresses.

Year 5, enter and exit the school grounds via the ASDA gate. We start at 9.00am and finish at 3.15pm. May we respectfully ask you to be prompt with timings and to move away from the site as soon as you have dropped off and collected your child. We appreciate pick up may be difficult if you have another child to collect.

If you need to speak to any member of staff, then please make an appointment as per our new COVID protocols. Face coverings must be worn if you enter the school grounds/building that includes coming to the front office window.

If your child is feeling unwell, please keep them at home. If they have a high temperature, new continuous cough, loss of smell/taste then please follow COVID protocols as per government guidelines. Thank you in advance for helping to keep our school and community safe.

We are looking forward to a successful term and hope you all remain safe and well.

The Year 5 staff.