

7 November 2014

Dear Parents

Welcome back!

Welcome to the final half term of 2014! I have been really impressed with the start the children have made to life in Year 5. They have worked incredibly hard, and produced some work of real quality; much of which is now displayed proudly in our classroom. Autumn 2 promises to be another busy half term, and we have a lot to cover before Christmas!

Topics for Autumn 2

English: Narrative; spooky stories; mystery; suspense

Science: Building on work from Aut 1 - Adaptations; food chains; life cycles

Geography: Location knowledge; map work; rivers

History: In-depth study of significant historical events of the 17th Century (The Gunpowder Plot; The Great Plague; The Great Fire of London)

Maths: Problem solving; multiplication and division; factors; primes; patterns; area; angles

Art: Pencil and paint skills

PE kits

Please note that the children should have an **indoor** and an **outdoor** PE kit in school at all times. Your child's indoor kits should be kept in a clearly labelled, pull string bag in the classroom and should only hold a pair of shorts and a T-shirt. Their outdoor kit is to be kept in your child's locker and it should contain a pair of trainers or plastic studded boots (the type made for AstroTurf are perfect as they are suitable for both field and playground use), a warm pair of tracksuit bottoms and a warm hoodie or jumper. In order for your child to take part in PE lessons, it is essential that they have both PE kits in school at all times. Please ensure all items are clearly labelled. PE this half-term will be gymnastics, though I hope to get outside for an extra session of PE whenever possible.

Home reading books and spellings

Please encourage your child to choose books that are challenging but enjoyable from within the appropriate colour band - and support them at home, so that they can change their book regularly. Reading for 20 minutes a night really is the single most effective thing that you can do with your child to aid their progress and development in school.

Spellings will continue to be sent home on a Friday, and your child will be assessed a week later. Whenever possible we will try to link the spelling lists to the topics and spelling rules being studied in class. Additional homework (usually quizzes and mini tests) will also be sent home regularly.

As always, if there is any aspect of your child's development or learning that you would like to speak to me about please don't hesitate to make an appointment or to catch me at the door if you have any quick queries.

Yours sincerely

Mr Lomas