

Welcome back to the Spring term...

We hope that you have all had a wonderful Christmas break and that you are well rested and ready for the next twelve weeks of the Spring term in Year 5. We are so excited to get stuck into 2024! We have another jam-packed term ahead of us: from Vikings to space exploration, Thor to Chris Hadfield and full stops to parenthesis! This term Mrs McDonnell and Mrs Higginson will continue to teach all week, except for Monday and Wednesday afternoons when you will be taught by Mrs Deakin. Mrs Deakin will continue to deliver your music and PE lessons. Miss Gibson will continue to support our learning every day.

So, what's in store?

Inside this leaflet you will gain an outline of some of the exciting learning that will take place during our new topic EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY—if you have any photographs, posters, books, models, artefacts etc that may help the children with their learning, please send them in clearly labelled with your child's name!

PE will be on Monday and Friday this term (outdoors weather permitting/wherever possible)—so please make sure that you have the correct school PE kit in school. Trainers for outdoor lessons/break times if needed and school shoes for in the classroom please.

Learning Log homework and Maths will continue to be given out on a Friday and should be returned on a Wednesday. All spellings will be given out in the first week back (glued into the learning log) and should be practised each week. As always, reading is the cornerstone of all learning. We recommend reading a wide range of texts both at home and at school, this includes your child's school reading book and their own personal reading books. Please continue to listen to your child read and sign their reading records as regularly as you can. By Year 5, we expect the children to also record any home reading they do themselves in their reading record, however it would be great if you could sign it to confirm they have read. Reading records will be checked every Tuesday and Friday. Please ensure that you have them with you every school day, but particularly on these days.

Any jumpers/shoes/kits left in the classroom at the end of a day are placed in the boxes above our coat pegs in class. Please ensure these are named so we can return them, we have an ever-increasing collection of abandoned jumpers and cardigans, and we know how expensive replacing uniform can be. Also, water bottles need to be taken home regularly and washed,

We look forward to seeing you all soon, any questions please ask.

Mrs McDonnell, Mrs Higginson, Miss Gibson and Mrs Deakin

Any questions, please get in touch with one of the Year 5 team, at year5@elton.cheshire.sch.uk



Topic Overview:

This term our exciting context for learning is 'Exploration and Discovery'. In the first half term we will be using the gripping story of Arthur and the Golden Rope by Joe Todd-Stanton to kick start our adventures into Norse mythology before exploring the origins and lives of Marvel's own very own Avengers. Through this we will continue our studies of the Anglo-Saxons and rapidly progress into the Viking Invasion of the UK. After half term, we will take our exploration into the greater unknown through studying the stories 'The Darkest Dark' by Chris Hadfield, and 'The boy who climbed to the moon' by David Almond as our launch pads into our investigation of the Earth in Space.

English:

During the first half term we will be focused upon reading and writing myths. We will create our own heroes, monsters and villains and vary the viewpoints from which we retell and create our myths. Our writing this term is really going to focus on cohesion—organising, sequencing and extending our paragraphs using conjunctions, commas, adverbials and clear presentational choices.

After half term we move onto recounts and biographical writing. Within this unit we will be writing a factual biography about Chris Hadfield. We will learn to use brackets, dashes and commas to indicate parenthesis and continue to develop our use of conjunction to extend sentences.

We will continue to develop our comprehension and inferential skills in guided reading and as a whole class share a range of myths and legends. Throughout spellings, punctuation and handwriting remain a priority in all our work.

Maths:

We will start the term off by revisiting multiplication and division, to learn to use written methods to solve increasingly complicated calculations, including multiplying 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers, and using the short method to divide. We will then return to fractions to apply our learning by multiplying fractions and finding fractions of quantities. After half term, we will move on to finding out about decimals, percentages, perimeter and area and statistics.

Science:

Within science, we will look at forces, with a specific focus on the force of gravity. We will also identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surfaces. After half term, we move to look at Earth and space. Within this unit, we will describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system and describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth. We will understand that the Sun, Earth and Moon are approximately spherical bodies, and we will use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.

Geography and History:

We will begin this half term by recapping the counties of England, as well as learning the location of some of the major cities of the UK, (London, Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham and so on). Any support that you can provide your children with this at home, e.g. showing them cities they have visited on a map of the UK, would be greatly appreciated. We will then go on to learn about the Mayan civilisation, including finding out how and why it grew, their achievements, and their contribution to history.

Art and DT:

In the first half term we will focus on DT where we will apply computing skills to program a Micro: bit animal monitor and using 3D CAD tools. After the half term, we will move onto art where we will look at painting and mixed media where children can experiment with materials and techniques.

PE:

PE lessons will continue to be taught twice a week on a Monday and a Friday. We will be improving our skills in hockey, tennis and athletics.

French:

This term, we will be taking part in conversations about French markets including naming items, prices and recipe instructions. We will then move onto using nouns and adjectives to name and describe clothing!

P4C:

In P4C, you will be learning all about recycling, linking into our learning in English and reading. We will then go on to look at mental health, including bullying, respect, tolerance and compassion. We will also be discussing personal space, consent and respect for privacy. We will discuss our strengths and personal growth in our My Happy Mind lessons.

Music:

After Christmas, we will be looking at musical theatre. The unit will focus on this unit focuses on teaching musical theatre, where children learn how singing, acting, and dancing combine to create an overall performance. After the half term, we will move onto composition in relation to the festival of colour!

RE:

In the first half term we will be looking at Sikhism and understanding how the values of community and equality are shown through the Sikh way of life. After the half term, we will then move onto Christianity and look in detail at the beliefs that we find hard to understand and what they mean.