Jessie Younghusband School

Year 5 – Spring Term – Curriculum Letter

Welcome to the Year 5 curriculum letter within which you will find useful information about the forthcoming term. It is amazing to think that we are already a third of the way through the academic year! I am very pleased to be part of Jessie Younghusband and I am looking forward to the remainder of the year ahead.

Reminders:

- Please can your child's P.E. kit continue to be in school all week from Monday morning? It will then be sent home each Friday to completely clear the cloakroom and to allow the kit to be washed. To make certain that any 'found' items can be returned to their owners promptly, please ensure that your child's P.E. kit and other school clothing is clearly named. The children will need football boots for Tag Rugby on the field in P.E.
- Home learning is usually set on a Friday to be returned by the following Friday. Thank you for your continued support with signing off home learning tasks and encouraging your child to hand their home learning in on time.
- Every Friday the children will bring home spellings. We are continuing to work on all of the times tables, so the children will be tested on them all. These will be tested on Friday. Regular practise of these at home is absolutely essential for improving and maintaining speed and accuracy of recall – again, thank you for your continued support with this.
- Regular reading aloud continues to be essential in Year 5 – supporting your child by listening to them read and engaging with them on the content of their reading material will help them to make progress. Daily reading material will include your child's school book, but can of course extend to texts such as other reading books, newspapers, recipe books, magazines / comics or joke books.

Last term:

The Autumn Term was a **very** busy one for Year 5, learning about The Romans and being Geography Detectives– as well as some other projects. Some of the highlights included:

- The visits from Paull Ullson – History Man.
- Having a mock battle and dressing up on Roman Day.
- Painting pictures in the style of Piet Mondrian in Arts Week.
- Year 5 camp – of course!



This term:
This term promises to be another action packed term as we learn about Space and Ancient Islamic Civilisations (incl. Baghdad). As they did last term, the children will continue to have an on-going input into their learning regarding this topic; they will also choose how to present more of their work.

The Space topic has a clear science focus but also links to the English, Computing, D&T, history and art that we will be doing. The Islamic topic has a historical focus, with some geographical exploration. There will be many exciting experiences for us to look forward to which include:

- Learning about Space and what is beyond!
- Writing to a British astronaut.
- "Alien Day"
- Visiting the Planetarium in Chichester.
- Designing our own space craft or rocket.
- Learning about Ancient Islamic Civilisations.



Ideas for supporting your child's learning:

- Useful websites for homework help include: http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/space.html .
- Visiting the local library.
- Useful books to read include non-fiction texts about space and anything to do with science fiction.
- Continue to develop your child's mental maths with some quick-fire questions based on times tables (and their related division facts), addition and subtraction of 2 or 3 numbers, including questions with money, negative numbers and decimals.
- Explore measures in the context of home including time (e.g. the 12- and 24-hour clock), shape and fractions.

Finally, does anyone:

- Have any space or Islam-related resources? (If you can lend us anything for display in the classroom please name it in some way so that it can be returned to the owner!)
- Have a good DVD on space or Islamic Civilisations which we could borrow, or a music CD featuring space or Islamic sounds/music?
- Have time to support us on our trips or with our DT work?
- Have resources, knowledge or experience to share about ancient Islamic Civilisations or experience of visiting Baghdad?



Kind regards,

Mrs Cooke