



18 September 2020

Dear Year 5 Parents/Carers,

Welcome back and welcome to year 5! I hope you are safe and well. I am thrilled to be working with the children again this year and I am looking forward to an exciting and hardworking (and hopefully full) year! There are, of course, some changes that have been put into place to keep us all as safe as possible but I will ensure that the school day is as normal as possible.

Our topic for this term is, 'Who was here before us?' and we will be focusing on Roman Britain and the Second World War. Whenever possible, this topic will be covered through cross curricular teaching and learning – linking subjects together to ensure a wholesome experience for the children.

In **English** we will be reading *The Nowhere Emporium* by Ross McKenzie and *Letters from the Lighthouse* by Emma Carroll. Using these texts, we will be writing narratives and recounts and we will also be learning about and writing speeches, letters and poems. We will also be working on improving our grammar, punctuation, handwriting and spelling.

Please ensure your child is still **reading daily at home**. Reading is extremely important so if you do not have a range of books for your child at home, please contact me. I have pledged to read to the children for ten minutes in school every day and I expect the children to do the same at home.

In **Maths** we will be working on our understanding of place value of five-digit numbers, solving problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, statistics and measurement, focusing on area and perimeter. We will also be improving our problem solving skills by completing investigations and challenges and practising times tables daily. Please ensure your child is still practising their times tables at home as well.

In **Science**, we will learn about the digestive system and human teeth and properties and changes of materials. We will work on our scientific skills by completing different types of investigations.

**History** is our main focus this term and we will be studying Roman Britain and World War 2, with a focus on what life was like in London during these eras.

In **Geography** we will use maps, atlases and globes to locate Italy and its capital city Rome and look at the locations of countries the Romans invaded. We will also look at the location of London in comparison to places where children were evacuated during the war.

In **Art and D.T.**, we will be improving our mastery of techniques using a variety of media. This will include creating Roman mosaics, designing, making and evaluating a fit-for-use Roman chariot and we will study the artist Henry Moore and focus on his depiction of the Blitz.

In **Computing**, we will be using laptops and iPads to help us research our topic and use *espresso coding* to sequence, selection and repetition in programs.

In **R.E.** we will be learning about Judaism and in **PSHE** we will focus on well-being, healthy eating, respectful relationships and first aid.

Year 5 will have **P.E.** sessions on **Tuesday** afternoons with Coach Charlie and **Wednesdays** with me. It is vital that your child wears appropriate clothing and footwear to school on these days, wearing no jewellery and long hair must be tied back as the children will not be changing for these lessons.

Year 5 will now have **French** lessons with Chloe on Fridays.

The children are extremely lucky this year that they get to play a brass instrument for their **music** sessions and we will form our own Year 5 brass band! These lessons will take place on Tuesday mornings with Simon and Ed. Children must have their instruments in school with them on these days.

### **Home Learning**

Every **Friday** your child will be given homework. This allows your child to share with you some of his/her school learning. Please participate in their homework but allow the child to take the lead, assisting only if they are unsure or need something read or explained. Please also ensure that your child tries their best to ensure that their homework is of a good standard. **Homework will now be set online via Google Classroom** and we will recap how to use it and access homework in school with the children. Children will receive a Home Learning book where they can complete their homework and this will stay at home with them. Photographs of work and work completed on the computer can be handed in online. **Homework must be completed and handed in by the following Thursday.**

### **Visits and workshops this term:**

Because of the current situation, some museums and venues are not yet allowing schools to visit so visits will be confirmed as soon as possible. However, we have arranged a trip to Hampstead Heath and a virtual fire safety workshop with London Fire Brigade on the 5<sup>th</sup> October

Yours sincerely,

Laura Ryan