



13th January 2022

Dear Year 5 Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our new Spring term! I hope that you all had a superb holiday and enjoyed your New Year celebrations. It has been fantastic hearing from the children about all that they got up to and seeing that they are ready to start the new term well!

The topic we are studying this term is 'Earth Matters'. This topic covers all living things across the Earth and will give the opportunity for the pupils to discover and understand how plants, animals and humans have similarities and differences in their life cycles, reproduction and also their impact on the planet.

In **English** we will be working on our writing skills to write stories, explanation texts, recounts, scripts and poems. These will be based on Kenneth Grahaeme's *Wind in the Willows*, a range of cicada poetry, holiday brochures to discover what is around the world and nonfiction texts. We will also be working on improving our grammar, punctuation, handwriting and spelling.

In **Maths** we will be working on our understanding of multiplication, division, comparing fractions, adding and subtracting fractions and decimals/percentages. We will also be developing our problem solving skills by completing investigations and challenges.

In **Science**, we will be learning about similarities and differences within the life cycles of insects, amphibians, mammals, plants, birds and more! This topic will also cover the reproduction of these living things. We will also be learning about humans and the changes that we go through throughout our lives, including puberty.

In **Geography**, we will be using our topic to find out about our local area and being able to contrast it with living things found throughout the world. From this, we will understand how to read a compass, use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods. We are also going to take our skills from our PE lessons, as well as the ability to read maps, to complete orienteering on Hampstead Heath.

In **Art, Food Tech and DT**, we are going to be studying and presenting art on animals, using a range of textures such as feathers with birds. We will be developing our sketching skills by completing bird observational drawings (linked to 2022 RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch). Linking with our work in PHSE, we will be developing the children's understanding of a varied diet and the importance for our health, providing the class with opportunities to cook a range of savoury food too.

In **Computing**, we will be using laptops and iPads to help us research our topic, complete coding activities and continue to understand the importance of online safety.

In **RE** we will be learning about the different holy places we have around the planet. This will celebrate the diversity of other nations, as well as in London.

Year 3 will have **PE** sessions on **Tuesday** afternoons and **Thursday** mornings. Please ensure that your child arrives at school in the appropriate clothing and footwear in school for these lessons as they will not be changing before or after.

Through **Guided Reading**, pupils will be completing whole class reading lessons where we will be developing our comprehension and reading skills with a range of texts. The children will have opportunities to build upon their love of reading and will also be introduced to new and exciting genres and authors.

Home Learning

Every **Friday** your child will be given homework via Google Classroom. Each week will include 3 tasks, taking 20 minutes each (literacy, maths and topic). Please participate in their homework but allow the child to take the lead, assisting only if they need explaining/clarification or need something reading. If there is ever a need for clarification or you are having trouble accessing the content, please let me know and I will be more than happy to support.

Homework is due back the following Thursday.

Included in this homework will be spellings taken from the statutory Year 5 and 6 words to learn. We will be having a test every Friday on these words.

Every day the class will complete a particular times table challenge. Each week the times table changes with a test completed on the Friday. Please see google classroom to find which times tables we are working on that week.

Punctuality

Please remember that children should be entering the school at 8.50am each morning.

Important dates

28-30th January = RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch

Wednesday 16th March = Camden singing project performance

Visits and workshops this term:

London Zoo	To be confirmed
The CLC	To be confirmed
Hampstead Heath	To be confirmed
Science workshop at The Crick	10.3.22

Kind regards

Mark Benjamin