# Year 5 Spring Term Newsletter

Welcome to Spring Term in Year 5! This term, our values are **Wisdom** and **Hope.** In class and during collective worship we will be thinking about these values and creating work which reflects what these values mean to us. These will all be displayed in our class values book.

## English

**Please read regularly at home with your child** as this is vitally important for the development of their reading and writing skills. We appreciate your help to look after your child's **reading record** and ensure they are **signed regularly** and are kept in your child's book bag at all times. This year we are focusing on the application of accurate grammar and punctuation in reading and writing. This will largely be taught through high quality texts which afford the children a range of opportunities to explore concepts and the use of language through drama, art and role play in addition to extending their reading and writing skills. We have an exciting unit of work planned based around Carol Anne Duffy's book The Lost Happy Endings.This book asks children to think about what would happen if we lost the happy endings to stories. This fantastic and magical tale tells what happens when, one night, a wicked witch steals the happy endings to bedtime stories. It is up to Jub, the keeper of the happy endings, to save the day and ensure sweet dreams everywhere. In the tradition of classic fairy tales for children, Carol Ann Duffy and Jane Ray have created a truly compelling, surprising and beautiful story.

## P.E

On Thursday afternoons the children will have P.E with Mr Smith. Please make sure they have the correct P.E kit for this day and Friday. All P.E kit must be named. Any children wearing earrings must remove these for all P.E sessions. With the colder weather, I would recommend the children bring navy tracksuit bottoms and/or an old school jumper to wear during outdoor P.E. All children must have trainers for outdoor P.E. and plimsolls for indoor sessions.

## Maths

This term we will cover the following aspects of the curriculum;

- number and place value (6-digit rounding and counting and negative numbers)
- addition and subtraction (including adding and subtracting decimals)
- properties of shapes (naming, measuring and identifying angles)
- multiplication and division (Division HTO ÷ O with a remainder / fraction remainder or a decimal remainder.
- fractions,
- measurement (using metric and imperial units. Calculating perimeters.)
- decimals (ordering thousandths)
- statistics (line graphs)
- percentages.

The children should now be familiar with all their multiplication tables up to and including 12. We will be having daily multiplication tests, focusing on accuracy and speed. The children also sit a formal arithmetic test once a week.

## Science

During Autumn term our topic is 'Animals including Humans' where we will look at the changes that happen in humans during gestation, and from birth to old age. Science lessons will be taught by Mrs Boyle on a Thursday afternoon.

## PPA

On Thursday afternoon I have my weekly non-contact time. During this time the children will have Science taught by Mrs Boyle followed by a P.E session led by Mr Smith.

***Knowledge and Understanding of the World***

*Our topic this term is Anglo Saxons verses The Vikings. During this topic we will explore what Britain was like before the first Viking invasions. We will find out about the Viking settlement of Britain (Danelaw) and how this affected the Anglo Saxons. We will learn about Alfred the Great and why he was dubbed 'Alfred the Great.' We will explore what life was like for Vikings and Anglo Saxons living in Britain, including crime and punishment in this era. We will conclude the unit by finding out how and when England became a unified country. I have booked an Anglo-Saxon workshop for Friday 9th March. Children will have the opportunity to experience life as an Anglo Saxon for the day. I will provide more details nearer the time.*

***Expressive Arts***

*During our Art lessons this term we will be using various shading techniques to create light and shade on a portrait of a Viking warrior. We will also be using clay to create runes and an Anglo Saxon-inspired belt buckle. We will be using cardboard to create Viking long boats and full-size Viking shields. We will also be making our own Anglo-Saxon inspired weaving patterns out of wool.*

*During our Music unit this first half term all the learning is focused around the jazz genre. The material presents an integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments are all linked.*

***Philosophy and PSHE***

*In PSHE this half term our units are the Rule of Law and internet safety. We will use what we discuss in PSHE and this term's values of Wisdom and Hope as inspiration in our P4C lessons. We encourage our children to listen and respond with thoughtfulness and respect. We will use a stimulus such as a picture, object or a short film to inspire philosophical questions which we will discuss to encourage deeper thinking.*

***Uniform***

*Thank you to you all for continuing to keep your children smart and in the correct uniform! If you are in doubt at all of correct please do have a look at the website. Girls' headwear and hair bands should remain in blue, black, brown, white or yellow.*

***R.E***

*This term we will be asking 'Who is Jesus ?' Jesus made statements about himself, describing himself through symbolism; The children will learn about the 7 "I am. . ." statements of Jesus, such as 'I am the light of the World' and their meanings to Christians.*

*After half term we will be exploring the concept of pilgrimage and asking whether every Christian should go on a pilgrimage. We will look at different places for pilgrimage and the differences between special and sacred places. We will also consider the commercialisation of some of these 'sacred' places. Children will have the opportunity to understand what the experience of a pilgrimage is like for a Christian before, during and after. We will also considerwhat is more important to Christians – the journey or the destination?*

***And finally…***

*If you have any quick questions or concerns please feel free to catch me in the playground at the end of the day. I am very happy to answer your queries and it is always good to see you! If you would like to speak with me more privately, please see me to arrange an appointment. Please do keep an eye on the school website which lists all the key dates for the Spring term.*

*Mrs Brooks, Mr Cook and Mr Day*

***Homework***

*Homework will be sent home on Fridays and* ***must be handed back in by the following Wednesday****. It is important that the children take pride in their homework and look after their book.*