

**Heathfield Junior School
Curriculum Bulletin**

Year 5

Spring 2017

English

This term our Literacy lessons will be focused around the picture book 'Ice Trap' retelling Shackleton's incredible expedition across the Antarctic. Linking to our Think-Link topic, we will also be finding out about many of the Ancient Greek Myths. The unit involves the children reading, acting out and finally planning and writing their own myth. Reading remains a very high priority and we expect all children to read at home every night. We are having a big push on reading journals in year 5 and are expecting the children to use these as learning tools as well as for the recording of their daily reading. Please remind your child of this and ensure you sign their journal every night once they have read. Daily reading is proven to help your child make significant progress in both reading and writing.

Maths

In maths we will be exploring the unit of Fractions, Decimals and Percentages. (FDP) The children will be learning how to find equivalents, add, subtract and multiply fractions as well as making continual links between all three areas in the unit. Before Christmas, we sent home a FDP equivalence chart. We ask that you learn and test your children at home as knowing them will put them in good stead for the rest of the term. Please continue to work with your child on practising their times tables at home as this has a huge impact on their learning in school. The children can sign up to be tested in school and collect their badges once they have proved that they have completed a stage.

Science

This term we will be looking at the topics 'Circle of life' and 'Growing Up and Growing Old'. We have some exciting experiments planned in these topics to develop our skills of scientific enquiry.

Our Circle of Life topic will explore the life cycles of different plants and animals. We will be investigating how seeds germinate and what can effect this happening.

Throughout our Growing Up and Growing Old topic the children will look in detail at the human life cycle.

Think Link

We will start this term by looking at the Ancient Greek civilisation. We will spend lessons finding out about Greece and its geographical features and location. We will be analysing artefacts, researching ancient religious beliefs and gods, and finding out about two of the most influential city states.

In the second half of the term our topic of 'coasts' will see children researching and creatively exploring coastal erosion as well as finding out about how communities are trying to stop coastal erosion. We will spend some time looking at a variety of animals which inhabit the shores of Britain.

Homework

Reading forms part of your child's homework every night. We expect Year 5 children to read for 15 minutes every night independently or to an adult. Your child will bring home their red journal. Please listen to them read and encourage them to add comments to their journals each night.

Maths and English homework will be set on a **Thursday** to be returned the following **Monday**.

Spelling homework will be set on a **Monday** to be returned and tested on a **Friday**.

Homework can be done independently by the children although any advice you can offer always aids progress.

PE

Please ensure that your child has full PE kit in school every day. This includes black shorts or jogging bottoms, their house colour T-shirt and trainers. They may also want to bring in a jumper during the winter months.

Other important dates

Parents Evenings: **Monday 6th February 5.00pm - 8.00pm**

Tuesday 7th February 4pm - 6pm

Isle of Wight - **Monday 24th April - Wednesday 26th April and Wednesday 26th April - Friday 28th April 2017**

Isle of Wight School Journey- As you are aware year 5 children are invited to join the school journey to the Isle of Wight this year. As the year group is larger, we are splitting the year group in to 2 and taking half of the children Monday 24th April-26th April. We will then take the other half of the year group from Wednesday 26th - Friday 28th April. There are still places available for this trip so please see a member of the year 5 team if you are interested in your child attending or Mrs Webb in the school office.

How to Contact Us

We are always happy to see you and discuss any queries or concerns you may have but please be aware that we need to go in with our class as soon as the bell has rung in the morning. If you need to make an appointment at any time please contact the school office.

Kind Regards

Miss Carpenter - Aurora Class - Head of Year 5,

Mrs Hill/Mrs Jenkins - Voyager Class

Miss Gillan- Asteroid Class

Miss Morris - Pegasus Class