

# Year 5/6 Newsletter

June 2017

Dear Parents

Can you believe we are entering our final term for the year? It's certainly whizzed by but the children have continued to show enthusiasm and determination throughout all their learning. Last term was a short term, but we produced some wonderful pieces of work relating to adaptation and evolution. Moving into our second, and final, summer term, we will be looking at World War II within our new topic.

## Topics

We are finishing the year thinking about "Who had to keep calm and carry on?" during World War II. We will be particularly focusing on the soldiers of the war, home fronts, bombings, concentration camps and how rationing was used throughout the war. We will be using a variety of texts over the coming weeks, with an emphasis on 'Rose Blanche' by Ian McEwan, which is once again another beautifully illustrated picture book, aimed to enthuse the children and support their writing ideas. As always, children are more than welcome to bring their own copy of the text into the classroom to use within the lessons. Along with this text, we will delve into a couple of other World War books including: 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas', 'The Diary of Anne Frank' and 'Goodnight Mr Tom'.

We will use the topic of World War II as the foundation for other subjects too, including Literacy, Numeracy, ICT and RE, hoping to incorporate their learning of the war throughout each subject. As always, there will be a strong focus throughout the term on e-safety, covering areas such as: how to stay safe online, cyber bullying and safe and responsible use of technology. We appreciate your support in these areas as much of the children's exposure to technology and online activity happens at home.

## Reading and Homework

We hope that children are enjoying reading to an adult at home as often as possible. Across the three classes, we are continuing to issue Book Points for those keen readers, so please encourage your child to read every day, as it's definitely worthwhile. It is important that your child brings both their diary and reading book into school every day and we will make sure they also take it home every day.

The school reading diaries should continue to be used as a communication tool between home and school. We will use these to provide you with information about what/how your children are currently doing in school. Each diary will contain your child's outcomes booklet, which outlines their targets for the term and an overall idea of the skills they will be learning. Alongside the outcomes booklet, we have sent home a copy of the homework for both Year 5 and 6. Year 6 children will be returning to the termly homework project for the final time, instead of the weekly homework, they received last term in preparation for SATS.

Please encourage your child to continue to use 'Manga High' to complete weekly maths tasks and challenges as this is a fantastic opportunity for the children to consolidate their learning alongside what they have been taught in class that week. On request, children can receive another copy of their login details.

## Equipment

Please ensure that your child has the correct equipment with them at school. PE kits should be in school at **all times** with all items of clothing clearly labelled. Y5/6 will have PE on a Wednesday morning and Thursday afternoon. May we remind you that this consists of a **plain white t-shirt, blue shorts/skirt, plimsolls or trainers**. A plain dark tracksuit may be worn for outdoor lessons. Earrings must be removed and children must be able to do this themselves. The children may also bring a bottle of water with them to school and we would really encourage all children to do so - this can really boost their brain power! Please make sure this is in a labelled bottle and that your child brings it home to be washed and refilled each day.

During the year we may undertake additional activities such as cooking, DT and visits within the local community. We therefore ask that, if possible, you could donate a £3 voluntary contribution (£1 a term) to cover costs. We would be very grateful for your support with this.

### **Sun Safe!**

As you are aware, we are a sun safe school! We therefore expect children to come prepared for the hot days we may (or may not) have. Children are more than welcome to bring their own sun-cream into school but must ensure the 'sun-safe' stickers have been clearly signed in their diaries. Likewise, we are happy for children to use the sun-cream we have in school but, again, they must have parental consent to ensure they can use this. Children must also bring their own sun-hat and water bottle, which is clearly labelled with their name.

### **Year 5 and 6 Production**

We are really excited, as are the children, to announce our production this year will be: 'Treasure Island: The Musical' this year. Children will be sent home with a copy of the words for the songs, which we would encourage them to learn ready for the production in July. The dates for the production are as follows: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 3.30pm and Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 1.45pm and 6.00pm. Parents and guardians are more than welcome to watch the production and tickets will become available closer to the time.

### **Y5 Swimming**

It is the children in Year 5's last term of their swimming sessions at West Park Leisure Centre, which they've thoroughly enjoyed and done so well! Again, these sessions are led by Mrs Shaw and Mrs Taylor. We hope the children will continue to pursue their swimming lessons in the near future, as they've all made us so proud with their confidence and ability.

### **Dates for your diary:**

June 23<sup>rd</sup> - INSET DAY

June 30<sup>th</sup> - FEM Summer Fayre 3.10pm

July 6<sup>th</sup> - All day sports day

July 10<sup>th</sup> - Reports/Class letters go home

July 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> - Class swap (am)

July 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> - Year 5/6 Productions

We hope that you have found this newsletter useful and have learnt a little about what your child will be doing over the final term of 2017. We are extremely proud of every child in Year 5 and 6, and look forward to spending the final weeks together. If you do have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact us at school - we are always available on the playground at the end of the day!

Yours sincerely,

*K. Mannion*

*K. MacDonald*

*E. Pugh*

Miss Mannion

Miss MacDonald

Miss Pugh