

# Year 5/6 Newsletter

September 2017

Dear Parents

Welcome back to a new school year! We hope that you have all had a fantastic summer and have settled back smoothly into the school routine. The children have all settled down well into their new classes and we are really looking forward to working with them over the coming year, which is full of exciting topics! This year we will have Mrs Taylor and Mrs Hall working alongside the Year 5/6 team. We have started the term well with our visit to the Briars for our Year 6 children and the children in Year 5 have got stuck in to their first week back exploring the idea of a Mission.

## Topics

Our topic for the first half of the Autumn Term is "Can you make a small step?" in which we will be learning all about Earth and Space particularly focussing on Neil Armstrong and many other astronauts and expeditions to Space. We will of course continue to develop the key areas of Literacy, Numeracy, ICT and RE alongside this. We are planning a trip to the Space Centre on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> October. Please keep an eye out for more information about this visit shortly.

## Reading and Homework

Please ensure that your child is reading at home as often as possible (ideally every day!). As usual they will be issued with school reading books and should also be encouraged to read other material available to them at home. Please encourage your child to ensure they have their reading book in school every day.

All of the children have been issued with a new home/school diary. This diary can be used to communicate with us as well as providing you with information about what your child is currently doing in school. It will also tell you what your child's current targets are. Please ensure you check your child's diary regularly and sign it each week. As with reading books, please encourage them to make sure they have it in school everyday!

We have sent home a copy of the term's homework expectations with your child. There is an overall project, as well as some basic skills for your children to complete. Please ensure this is handed in on the given date. The children need to become more independent in ensuring their homework is completed but please feel free to support them as needed.

Please encourage your child to continue to use the 'Manga High' to complete weekly maths challenges and activities as this is a fantastic opportunity for the children to consolidate the learning they have been taught in class that week. The children will receive another copy of their login details; these have also been recorded in their home/school diaries.

## School Website

Please keep an eye on the school website for updated information and pictures of the children's work and activities on the class pages.

## 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 Tuesday afternoon and Thursday morning. 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.

### Masses

We will be holding class masses to celebrate the work covered in our RE syllabus. All are welcome to attend the class masses!

Miss Macdonald's class mass will be held on November 10<sup>th</sup>.

### Y5 Swimming

The children in Year 5 will be swimming this year at West Park Leisure Centre. These sessions will be led by Miss Hill on a Tuesday afternoon. The children will be split into two groups and swim for 3 half-terms each. More details to follow!

We hope that you have found this newsletter useful and have learnt a little about what your child will be doing over the coming term. 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!

We look forward to seeing you all at the forthcoming parents evening.

Yours sincerely

*K. Mannion*

*K. Macdonald*

*E. Pugh*

*H. Gooden*

Miss Mannion

Miss Macdonald

Miss Pugh

Mrs Gooden