

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome Year 5 to Rowan Class

Welcome back after the autumn half term break. This letter is to let you know what we will be doing in class over the following weeks in the lead up to Christmas.

In maths, the first week of the term is focused on statistics and line graphs. This will be followed by multiplication and division skills and application through measure, area and perimeter. Your child should continue to learn their times tables, continuing to use Maths Frame games, Hit the Button and TT Rockstars for this. Most of the class had already learned all their tables by the end of last year, which was fantastic. It is vital that your child learn their tables to 12 x 12 including knowing the division facts - this will help them to multiply numbers quickly, divide numbers quickly, spot number patterns, and begin to work out fractions of numbers. Please also make sure that your child continues to practise reading the time on analogue and digital clocks (if they cannot already tell the time). Maths homework each week is a follow up to the weeks work and should consolidate skills covered. However, if your child does struggle with the homework they can come and ask any class teacher or attend homework club on a Monday lunchtime.

Our literacy for the next few weeks will focus on recount writing. This will link closely with our history work and some of the children will extend their work further to include writing newspaper reports. Skills focuses within this work will be linked to your child's individual needs for moving their writing forward. Spelling will continue to be taught separately - with spellings given out on a Thursday and tested the following Thursday. It is vital that your child practice these spelling at home. Handwriting within the class as a whole is much improved but for those children who need practice, there will be a short handwriting session during the week. It is still extremely important that you continue to read and share books with your child, whether they are reading independently or particularly if they are struggling to read. Lots of children can decode well but it is important that they talk about the stories and words that they read so that they really understand them. Please look out for your child's reading record book and the 10 minute per day reading challenge that the class will be undertaking.

Our overarching project for the term continues to have a focus on history and Rowan Class will continue to study World War 2 - particularly the experiences of children in Britain during World War 2, comparing the lives of children in Britain to those in other countries. We shall be cooking from war time recipes and trying out some rag rug making for a make do and mend project. It is intended that nearer Christmas we shall invite parents in for a VE party celebration. We also have our trip to Bletchley Park to look forward to. Look out for a homework project coming soon - lots of the children have been so keen to share their family experiences of war that I shall be setting them a homework project that they can present to parents nearer Christmas. Our art topic will tie in with history as we look at the war artist Henry Moore and create paintings of the Blitz to accompany poetry.

In science, we shall be looking at Evolution and Inheritance. This will include looking at fossils and the work of people like Mary Anning and Charles Darwin. I shall be linking our French work with this as we look at our families and create family trees.

We shall also be looking at programming skills in computing.

If you have any questions or concerns, or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will do my best to help.

Yours faithfully

Miss Lorna Burrow (Rowan Class Teacher)