Term 1 Primary 5 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers and Primary 5,

Welcome back to school and to P5. We hope you have all had a lovely summer holiday and are all ready for the new challenges of primary 5. We are already into the routines of P5 and showing enthusiasm to learn. Miss Anderson will be teaching the class on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday and Mr Barrow will be in class on Thursday and Friday.

Together we have discussed the Golden Rules (please ensure you have read, discussed and signed the Golden Rules which are in the Homework Diary with your child). The children have also compiled a set of class rules for us all to follow -

P5 Class Rules

* Be happy and have fun.
* Work hard and be the best you can be.
* Be honest.
* Always be kind to others.
* Wait for your turn to speak.
* Be careful with property and keep the class tidy.
* Always be helpful.
* Ask before taking things.
* Show respect to everyone.
* Pass things nicely.

Pupil Support Assistant

This year, Mrs Taylor will be working alongside and supporting P5.

Things to Remember (daily)

* Named indoor shoes which should be stored in a gym bag to keep our cloakroom tidy and organised.
* Water bottle which should be taken home each night.
* Homework Diary and green folder.
* Apron or old t-shirt.
* PE kit – Monday and Wednesday (Ball skills leading to Volleyball skills and games).
* Library book - children can change their book fortnightly on a Wednesday.
* Pencil and rubber for all the hard work! ☺

Homework

The Blue and Pink **reading** groups will be taken on a Monday and Thursday. The Red, Rainbow and Black groups on a Tuesday and Friday. Please continue to support your child with their reading and with any Book Detective task they are given. A reminder of the Book Detective tasks are in the Homework Diary. **Spelling** will be issued on a Monday and should be practised daily, your child may find writing them in different colours aids their learning, others may find spelling them out loud helps and others may prefer to type them. If your child would like a challenge they could think of more words that follow the spelling pattern or write sentences using the spelling words. We shall continue to learn the words in school and we will be looking for the children to spell the words correctly in their other work. **Talk** homework shall also be issued regularly for your children to discuss with the family, this helps their thought process for a learning activity e.g. writing, topic discussion, etc. – they do not need to write anything down. Maths homework will also be issued regularly and times tables should be practised as often as possible.

Literacy

We will continue to use Jolly Grammar as the approach to learning about grammar and spelling and comprehension to support reading and writing. The spelling sound/pattern will be supported with a variety of activities throughout the week. We will also be using some of the ‘Big Writing’ approaches to build on and reinforce vocabulary, connectives, openers and punctuation. We shall also be building up our use of a thesaurus to find alternative words. Literacy achievements will be celebrated regularly through ‘Star Writers’.

Numeracy

We will be developing the use of addition strategies with numbers to 1000 and using estimation and rounding to check calculations. They will be further developing the use of addition skills in different contexts and problem solving. We will also be working with money and giving change at least up to £10 using addition strategies.

The PSA have kindly paid for the subscription to ‘Sumdog’. This maths website is a personalised, fun way to support maths, so please do encourage them to go on regularly. Their username and password are in their Homework diary.

Health & Wellbeing

The children have loved the film ‘Inside Out’ and watching Riley going through changes in life and how her emotions try to deal with issues. We are now exploring the emotions – Joy, Sadness, Fear, Anger and Disgust by using a thesaurus to explore other words for each emotion, thinking of scenarios that make people feel a particular emotion and most importantly how can we support ourselves and others when changes and emotions affect us.

Topic

This term our topic focus will be on Charlie & The Chocolate Factory. Initial conversations with the class have shown that they are very interested in how chocolate is made and all the different kinds that are on offer. Children seem keen to embrace active learning through chocolate tasting sessions and Miss Anderson and Mr Barrow think that’s probably a good idea! Proud of the school’s Fairtrade award, the children are keen to explore how cocoa is traded across the world. The topic will be driven by the children’s questions as well as the class text. If you or someone you know has an interest in this subject and able to offer time and expertise please let us know. The class will also have the opportunity to run a Fair Trade tuckshop on a regular basis working with P4/5.

Science

Mrs Middleton will take the class on a Wednesday for science. This term they will be investigating life cycles and inheritance.

French

In class we will use some French through our daily routines and games. On Friday the class will extend their learning with Mrs Ruxton, they will be learning about – weather, fruit & vegetables and the currency - Euros.

Class Dojo

You should have received instructions for login in to class dojo at home. One of the reasons that we like the system is that children can be reminded of what they did to earn, or lose points. You can see the points they have at home and choose to have conversations about their day when you see fit. There are lots of features including parent/teacher messaging. Please don’t use the messaging feature as we will stick to the normal routes of communication through the diary or the front office.

Golden Time

Our Golden Time will be on a Wednesday this term. Rewarding the children for keeping the Golden Rules but is also a good time to develop our social skills and a chance to mix with the P4 and P4/5 classes. Children can bring a toy or game in to share at Golden Time but no electronic devices are to be taken into school.

Dates for you Diary

Parent Consultations – Wednesday 27th September 6-8:30pm and Thursday 28th September 3:45-6:15pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything with us, please don’t hesitate to contact us via the homework diary, catch us at the door or phone the office to arrange a suitable time.

Miss Anderson and Mr Barrow ☺ ☺