

Hello Year 5s!

I am so excited to have you all in my class this year. This letter is to let you know what we will be doing in year 5 and how it works but don't worry a lot of it is similar to year 4. This half term we will be looking at adventure stories containing a flashback in English, place value and addition and subtraction in Maths, invasion games in PE, the history of Reading Abbey and the ancient Egyptians for Topic, coding in computing, revising what we already know in French and we are going to be reading Varjak Paw as a class in our guided reading sessions.

Homework diaries:

I will collect homework diaries in every Monday morning. You need to write at least three comments about the book you are reading at home. I expect these comments to be year 5 standard. That means your comments should be focused on how the author is writing, what you found interesting as a reader and why the author made certain choices in their writing. I would not expect to read comments telling what happened in the pages you read. Below are some questions that might help you to write Year 5 level comments.

What is a character feeling? How do you know?

Why has the author chosen to include that word/phrase/punctuation?

If you could rewrite any of the last pages, what would you change and why?

What does this word tell us about the character/setting/atmosphere?

What is the main message in this paragraph?

Has this chapter/book/message taught you something you didn't know before? What?

What do you think will happen next? Explain why you think that.

Which character would you most like to meet? Why?

Why did this character behave like this?

How is the character like someone that you know? How would she/he react to this situation? How does that affect how you think this character might respond?

If your character is in a tricky situation, what might they do next? What would you do? Why?

Who has the author written this text for?

How has the character change throughout the text?

PE:

We have PE twice a week, on a Wednesday and Friday afternoon. You must have your PE kit with you on those days. Changing in to your PE kit is important for your personal hygiene and your safety during PE sessions. You will be sent home in your PE kit on those days so it is really important that you organise yourself properly and remember to take all your school uniform home.

Spelling:

You will have a list of spellings to practise every week that will contain a specific spelling rule or theme. We will test you on the spellings before you have learnt them in a pre-test and the test you again on the spellings after we have been learning them all week. I expect you to get a better mark on the second test to show me that you have been learning them at home.

The only homework you have is to read to enable you to write your three comments each week and practising all your spelling and times tables (we will randomly test you to make sure you know them all). If you want to do a little more we will be sending home a maths work book and comprehension book. You can also use SPAG.com to consolidate the grammar we have learnt in class. However, it is really important, especially after the break in conventional schooling we have had, that when you are at home you have time to relax, rest and have fun so that when you come in to school you are properly ready to learn and have fun.

Please do not worry about being back in school again; we have been doing everything we can to make sure school will be a safe, familiar and happy place for you. If you are having any concerns or worries make sure you come and talk to us so we can help.

Best wishes,

Miss Thom and Mrs Parry