Dear Parents and Carers of Year 5 pupils,

It has been a pleasure to see your pupils come back happily to school this New Year. I’ve been especially impressed by their attitude to reading over the holidays. It is remarkable that so many pupils read far more than the allocated 100 pages that were set for homework, so thank you for the support you have given your child on this.



The Spring term will be certainly be an exciting one. In English, we will study a range of genres, including science fiction stories and advertisements. During these units, we will further develop our use of paragraphs and will learn how to punctuate speech correctly. We will also further develop the ways we can open paragraphs / begin new sentences, using powerful fronted adverbials.

In maths, we will learn how to use the formal method of multiplication and division and we will continue developing our problem solving skills in a range of contexts, including money and measure. Pupils will also complete a range of hands on activities to help them develop their knowledge of fractions.



In science, we will learn all about Earth and Space. Pupils will learn all about our solar system, gravity and why the moon appears to be a different shape at different times of the cycle. Pupils will also understand the importance of the sun.

Our topic work will be based on ‘The Extreme World’, focussing on volcanoes and earthquakes. We will about learn where major fault lines and volcanoes are in the world and will consider why they are located where they are. This project will give us the opportunity to learn essential atlas skills, such as how to read lines of longitude and latitude. Pupils will learn the story of Pompeii and will even get the chance to learn how to cook an Italian pasta dish, of their own design.



Our PSHE units on Going for Goals and Good to be Me will give us opportunities to think about our ambitions in life and how we can achieve them. As part of our studies, we will look at the dangers of drugs, most notably smoking and alcohol. We will develop an even better understanding of why we are so wonderful, and why we must take great care of ourselves.

In ICT, we will learn how to code. This involves giving the computer clear inputs to create a desired output.

In RE, we learn more about Jesus’s life and why he acted as he did. Father Martin will be coming in to talk to the pupils about how Christianity, and learning about the life of Jesus, has helped him.



In French, we will learn vocabulary for the months of the year, different types of weather and the seasons. We will also learn language that will help us to describe pictures.

In music, we will perform a classic pop song (instruments as well as vocals). We will investigate pitch, dynamics and rhythm. Pupils will have a chance to play a range of instruments and will be able to further develop their singing voices.



Our PE days will be Mondays and Fridays when we have netball and dance. We have organised a specialist PE teacher to help us with the latter unit, and we look forward to the expertise she will bring. In addition, we will also develop our cycling skills in preparation for a cycling day in March, when we will also participate in lots of Outdoor Adventure Activities. Please ensure your child has the appropriate kit ready on these days.

It is important that all pupils complete their homework regularly and on time. Each week, pupils will be asked to complete both a Maths and an English task, to be handed in every Wednesday. Additionally, pupils will be expected to read twenty-five pages a week (minimum).

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and see me; I am always keen to help.

Yours sincerely,

John Mills