

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 5 pupils,

It has been a pleasure to start the new academic year with your children. They have already impressed by showing both imagination and perseverance in their learning. So far, we have covered work in the areas addition and subtraction, have written some stunning descriptions of an island setting and have produced some wonderful research about Dr Martin Luther King Jr.



The rest of the Autumn term will be certainly be just as exciting. In English, we will study a range of genres including suspense writing, based on 'A Series of Unfortunate Events'. During these units, we will further develop our range of sentence types, will improve our use of punctuation and will build upon our ability to link paragraphs together. Pupils will also have the chance to become journalists, when we complete a unit on newspaper reports.



In maths, we will continue developing skills in all areas including further improving our written methods when multiplying and dividing, learning more about prime numbers and learning how to round numbers to different amounts. Pupils will have the opportunity to practise new skills in a range of meaningful contexts.



In science, we will learn all about materials. A range of hands-on experiments have already been planned to investigate the different properties that different materials have. We will ensure all tests that are carried out are 'fair' and will consider how to best show our results.



Our topic work will be based on America. We will study the geography of New York, which will allow us to compare it to our own fantastic city. We will discover many similarities, as well as many differences, between the two places. Pupils will also have the opportunity to learn about a completely contrasting area of the United States, Alaska. After learning how America is one of the biggest producers of confectionary in the world, pupils will even have a chance to create and make their own unique chocolates, as part of a design technology project. I cannot wait to sample these (strictly for assessment purposes only)!



Our PSHE units on new beginnings will help pupils to settle into the upper part of Key Stage 2, and our work on multiculturalism will enhance pupils' learning about equality. In RE, we will study the importance of the Holy Trinity to Christians, before learning about the festival of Christmas.



Our PE days will be Mondays and Fridays when we have gymnastics and invasion games, starting with football. Please ensure your child has the appropriate kit ready on these days (pupils are encouraged to wear jogging bottoms and sweatshirts when it is cold and the activity takes place outside).



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 five times a week outside of school. Pupils will also be expected to spend time learning their new spellings.



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