



Ranvilles

Year 5 – Summer Term 2

What will the children be learning?

In this final half term of Year 5, the children will explore a diverse range of topics. In science we have two mini-units, one on ‘the human timeline’ and another about asteroid impacts and craters that will encompass revision of all of this year’s science topics. Our PSHE unit will start with the sex and relationship work outlined in the recent information evening, and follow on with the emotions that are part and parcel of growing up. By approaching what can be a worrying subject for a lot of children from a scientific as well as emotional point of view, we can educate as well as explore feelings and concerns. In history, we’re off across the Atlantic to Central America to investigate the Mayan civilization of a thousand years ago. In doing so, we’ll compare the lives of Mayans to the Anglo-Saxon equivalent in the England of the time. In computing our topic will be animation, in which we’ll produce some stop motion animation films. We are already part way through our DT unit on food design and packaging, but will also work on a new unit to do with electrical circuits and motors. In RE we’ll investigate the Muslim concept of Umma and the way religious ties create a feeling of community, while in French we’ll learn vocabulary and sentence structures for being able to talk about family.

English

Our work in English for the first part of this term will cover the topic of balanced arguments, where we’ll examine graffiti and build towards a response to whether Banksy’s work is art or vandalism. We’ll then work on the transition to Year 6. The roles and responsibilities Year 6 have in the school are highly coveted by the children and Year 5 will take on the challenge of writing a persuasive letter to explain why they should be given one of the all-important badges. With all that accomplished, the remaining few weeks of the year will be given over to some creative and fun writing exercises to finish the year off.

Maths

In maths we have some exciting new topics to cover. Once our current work on fractions is complete, we’ll be investigating shape and geometry. It’s always refreshing to look at maths from different perspectives, and our shape work will naturally extend from the work we recently completed on angles and turns. In our end of unit Big Problems we always like to explore maths in a real world context, and we’re hoping to fit in much more of this in our final weeks.

How to help at home

Our homework routine runs from Monday to Monday as usual. New homework booklets will go home in the first week of the term. The regular homework tasks are as follows:

Reading: Regular independent reading (four times a week for a house point, five times for two). It would be especially great if you could listen to our child read to you, or a sibling, and ask questions about the text to check their understanding. We have Reading Masters booklets that will help with this – just ask if you’ve mislaid the one given in Year 3.

Spelling: Regular practice either using the sheet in the homework booklet or Spelling Shed. Two house points for five or more sessions a week.

Maths: Weekly maths challenge in the maths homework booklet and regular practise on TT Rockstars to develop or secure tables knowledge. Two house points for engaging in both tasks.

Please photograph the homework booklets to show engagement and upload to Google classroom. The websites and passwords needed for all of this are in your Dojo message thread, sent in September. Please also don’t forget our Sora eLibrary, which contains thousands of age-appropriate books. Information for accessing this is in the same password document in your Dojo message thread.

Other information

PE: Our PE days are Monday and Wednesday. This half term our topics will be Outdoor Adventurous Activities on Mondays on the field, which we can switch to indoors if raining, and Cricket on Wednesdays outdoors. It helps us hugely if on PE days ear rings aren’t worn so we don’t have to worry about taking them out, and long hair is tied back. These are both statutory safety requirements for school PE lessons.

Library: The school library is open every morning break time for children to change books as and when they need to. Children still learning to read also have access to our separate book band library and our allotted time there is on Wednesday mornings. Children on book bands are encouraged to change books weekly, keeping one in school for afternoon reading and one at home for home use.