Year 5 – Autumn 1

Secure and Happy Individuals

The Big Debate: **Belonging – we should all be free to move between countries.**

What will the children be learning?

Every half term in Year 5 is a rollercoaster of adventure covering a diverse range of subjects and topics. Some of our work this half term will come under the umbrella theme of self-worth and belonging, which we'll explore in RE, PSHE, My Happy Mind sessions and our Stormbreak activities. This theme will also lead into our half-termly debate topic: **"Belonging - we should all be free to move between countries."** Extending from that, our geography topic on the Alps will allow us to explore what it would be like to live in a different climate.

Meanwhile, in **Science**, we'll explore solid and liquid mixtures and methods used to separate them, asking questions such as: if you dissolve salt in water, can you get it back again? In **Computing**, we'll evaluate the use of the internet as a source of information and think about what is and isn't reliable. In **French**, we'll investigate noun gender, article-noun agreement, and adjective placement while exploring monster and body part vocabulary so we can describe some fantastic French beasts!

Our more practical subjects are also no less varied. In **Design and Technology**, we'll explore electrical systems as we design and create wobble bots. In **Music**, we'll be exploring how different melodies and chords can be used to represent different aspects of nature, including clouds, forests and even the Northern Lights!

English

Our English work this term will see us writing both fiction and non-fiction. We'll start be looking at the novel *Heidi* by Johanna Spyri, which tells the story of a young girl who moves to the Alps to live with her grandfather. The children will be using their narrative writing skills to create additional paragraphs within the story.

Next, the children will be writing their own non-chronological report all about The Alps, linking to our Geography unit for this half term.

We'll also be reading *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q Rauf to support the theme of belonging, which will also provide a perspective for our debate.

Maths

In Maths this term, we will consolidate learning from Year 3 and 4 while expanding core concepts surrounding Number and Place Value. Year 5 means using larger numbers up into the millions, and smaller numbers down to thousandths. We'll also be rounding, looking at using Roman numerals to signify years and use all these skills to complete a curious quest to run the Ranvilles Museum.

We'll then move on to learning formal methods for addition and subtraction to Year 5 standard, use this to solve multi-step problems.

How to help at home

Our homework routine runs from Monday to Monday as usual. New homework booklets will go home soon. 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.

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 (note: we are moving to MS Teams – there will be further communication regards this). The websites and passwords needed for all of this should be the same as last year, but please contact your child's class teacher if required.

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 shared with the children in school and is available from your child's class teacher.

Other information

PE: Our PE days are **Monday indoors** and **Friday outdoors**, although while the weather holds we'll do Monday sessions outdoors for space if we can. On Mondays, we'll be exploring the concept of fitness and how to stay fit, while, on Fridays, we'll be learning how to play Netball under the expert tutelage of Mr Ayres. 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.