



### **A little note from us:**

So Year 5 started at full pace... we have already had a very successful and enjoyable first term. The children have immersed themselves in 'A Knight Thou Shalt Be', where they braved horse riding; developed their jousting skills, fired an arrow from a bow; made and designed shields, wrote diaries and were officially knighted into the year group. Our trip into the past did not stop there, as our pupils found out about the plague which effected England for centuries. They discovered the horrid symptoms, which often lead to death, as well as some of the strange cures that were used at the time. The term concluded with the watching their paper model of London being burnt to ash, which struck London in 1666 and helped reduce the spread of the disease.

### **Term 2**

This term will consist of a single topic, which will focus on the Ancient Egyptians. Once again this topic is set in the past, and will be heavily focused on history, with elements of literacy, DT and science (forces) mixed in too! Pupils will carry out their own research as to why the River Nile was so important to the period, using books and the internet and ensuring the children consider the reliability of information to research the pyramids. This research will inspire newspaper writing as we aim to write a newspaper article reporting on the building of the pyramids. In addition, we will cover mummification and pupils will sculpt a mini Egyptian coffin and sarcophagus using clay, wood and card using their art and design technology skills. Furthermore, pupils will consider how the Ancient Egyptians used forces to help them with everyday life and in building the pyramids. This will be done through practical lessons, requiring scientific thinking and understanding.



The term will conclude with our Christmas Market and the children taking part in Enterprise Week, where they will be required to design and make a suitably festive item to sell on the Year 5 stall.

### **Project and Numeracy Homework Set Weekly**

We are aware that some pupils are telling their parents that homework has not been set! It is very rare that this will happen, therefore, please feel free to check with your child's class teacher if homework has not been set, we will happily tell you if it has!



Weekly homework will continue to be issued on a **Friday** for it to be completed and returned by the following **Wednesday**. Your child is required to spend a **minimum** of **30 minutes** completing their homework using a handwriting pen for Topic homework and a HB pencil for numeracy homework and any drawings.

Should your child not complete the task in the time allotted, please jot a quick note in their book to say they have spent 30 minutes fully concentrated on the task. This will allow us to adjust the quantity of homework accordingly.

## **Reminder: Reading Expectations**

The ability to read well is crucial – a life skill required by all. As a result, we require **each child to:**



- read on **five separate occasions every week** (three times to an adult at least where possible);
- **note their reading in their contact book** (date, pages, brief comment)
- **have a parent/guardian sign their book** to confirm the reading has taken place.

Pupils should be encouraged to read a book each week (fiction/non-fiction), with additional reading including reading from the internet if researching or looking a hobby or from other sources. However, reading to complete research as part of their topic homework, unfortunately does not form part of their reading homework.

Additional comments from parents are welcome. We appreciate that it is not always possible to read with your child although it would be beneficial to them for this to happen as much as possible. Contact books will be checked and signed on a Monday, but should be brought into school each day.

## **Next term:**

In term 3 pupils will begin with a whole school project based on the well-known child's author Roald Dahl. The remainder of the term is likely to have the children finding themselves stranded on a desert island, when science, literacy and art are combined to consider life without modern conveniences and only what they can find around them!

## **Diary Dates**

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November:** Year 5 Parents Consultations

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December:** Year 5 visiting the local church in the morning.

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Fayre (details will follow closer to the date)

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December:** Last day of Term 2

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January:** Staff Development Days (school closed for pupils)

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January:** First day of Term 3 for pupils

If there are any questions regarding Year 5, do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher using your child's reading record or via the school office.

Miss Cook (Head of Year), Mrs Wintle, Mrs Macias and Mr Jones