

Emerald Class Autumn Term Newsletter 2018

Welcome to Emerald class. I hope that you have had a good summer and that the children are ready to begin their time in Year 5. I am very much looking forward to this year and we have a busy and enjoyable term planned. The curriculum in Year 5 is challenging and the children will need to be prepared to take risks and develop their ability to take responsibility for their own learning though choosing tasks and helping to identify their next steps. In order to give you further information about the year, the 'meet the teacher' date has been arranged for Thursday 13th September at 3.15pm and our open classroom will be on Fridays after school. In my role as Deputy Head, I have a number of responsibilities to the school as a whole and, in order to carry these out effectively, Mrs. Webb will teach the class on a Thursday. We will be working very closely together to ensure that there is consistency and continuity for the children.

English - During the Autumn Term, Emerald class will, initially, be focussing on Science-Fiction stories and we will use elements of *The War of the Worlds* to inspire our writing. We will spend time consolidating knowledge and skills from the Year 4 curriculum before moving on to Year 5 expectations. As the term unfolds, we will begin to look at both explanation and discussion writing. We will look at how to structure these non-fiction texts and ways in which we can create cohesion both within and across paragraphs.

Reading - As always, it is important that the children (even if they are fluent readers) have as many opportunities to read to an adult as possible. I will work with the children on a weekly basis to develop their comprehension skills and we will continue to use the Accelerated Reader Scheme to promote, encourage and assess the children's understanding. Our class novel will be *George's Secret Key to the Universe* by Lucy and Stephen Hawking.

Mathematics - We will be focusing on place value understanding and written and mental methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. As the term develops, we will begin to deepen our understanding of statistics and area and perimeter. Our maths learning will involve many problem solving and investigational opportunities so that the children begin to apply their knowledge to a variety of contexts and situations.

P.E - In the first half of the Autumn Term, our P.E lessons will be Dance and Multi-skills (both with external instructors). In the second half, we will

continue with multi-skills and begin our netball unit of work. Please ensure that the children have the correct indoor and outdoor kits and footwear.

Topic - Our topic this term will be 'Out Of This World'. It is a science and geography based topic and we will be learning about the Earth, Sun and Moon as well as other planets in the solar system. In the second half of the term, we will develop our understanding of the different forces, the water cycle and the features of rivers.

Homework – The children will be expected to complete reading, spelling, grammar and maths learning at home. Reading will be on a continuous basis and maths, grammar and spelling will be set on a Wednesday for completion by the following Monday. The maths will, generally, be set on our new maths site 'My Maths' and an information letter can be found in the first page of the children's homework book. They will also be asked to complete an extended project each term. Further information will follow closer to the half term break.

Educational visits – I am in the process of scheduling visits for the year to enhance our learning. Further information will be given shortly.

Finally, please feel free to contact me at any time to discuss your child and their learning as it is vital that we work together to ensure that they have a happy and successful year.

Kind regards, Miss Almond