

Panshanger School Year 5 Spring Newsletter

Welcome back to everyone, I hope you are all well rested and looking forward to the rest of Year 5 in 2018!

The following is an overview of this term's planning for Year 5 which will be added to/ adapted as the term progresses according to the interests and needs of the children.

Literacy

There will be weekly whole class Guided Reading sessions where the children will experience a range of texts specifically chosen to improve their skills of inference, deduction as well as develop their vocabulary. Reading comprehension skills will be practised across the curriculum for example in Science, History and Geography. The children's writing (encompassing sentence construction, grammar, spelling, creativity and organisation) will be developed through a range of genres including narrative (Legends), poetry and descriptive writing based on the classic poem The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes.



A high standard of punctuation and presentation will be expected as a matter of course throughout writing tasks. The work will be differentiated according to the ability of the child but all will be expected to achieve at the highest level of which they are capable.

Mathematics

In accordance with the national curriculum for mathematics:

- it is expected that children will be able to count in steps of powers of 10 of any number, read, write, order numbers to 1 000 000
- children are expected to read Roman numerals to 1 000 and recognise years written using them
- there are higher expectations with prime numbers and factors, including prime factors
- children will need to recognise cube numbers
- the children are expected to solve problems with numbers up to three decimal places
- the children are expected to be able to add and subtract fractions with the same denominator and related fractions
- they need to multiply proper fractions and mixed number fractions by whole numbers
- standard written methods are specified for all four operations when working with numbers that have more than four digits, informal methods are not given as an option
- they are expected to be able to estimate and calculate volume.

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Mathematics will continue to be taught on a daily basis however we will take every advantage to use maths in other subjects thus making the children aware of its use in everyday life in a range of situations. A range of topics other than number will also be covered including work on shape, angles, time, handling data and measures. The children will be encouraged and taught to explain their decisions, methods and results in different ways using mathematical language and number sentences.

Science

Enquiry skills - this non-factual topic will focus on developing the 'working scientifically' skills needed when approaching any and all science investigations and explorations. It will cover:

- planning
- fair testing
- the use of equipment
- recording
- drawing conclusions
- evaluating

Materials, their properties and uses - This will encompass solids, liquids and gases. We will plan and

carry out investigations and analyse the outcomes.

Other curriculum areas include:

- **Geography** - Rivers, map reading skills
- **History** - Aztecs
- **DT** - How cam mechanisms can be used to produce movement
- **Computing** - Spreadsheets (EXCEL)
- **PE** - Through twice weekly PE sessions, children will experience Dance/ Gymnastics as well as other incidental opportunities to take part in sporting activities.
- **Art** - Record observations, improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials [for example, pencil, charcoal, paint, clay] initially there will be a focus on the subject of Dragons.
- **RE**- Key Figures in the Jewish Religion and Easter/ Holy Week.
- **Music** - Lessons continue on a weekly basis with Mr Mitchell
- **French** - Lessons with Madame Bruce



Reminders

- We have PE twice a week. **Please ensure that your child has their kit in school all the time in case for any reason we have to change the lessons or have additional sessions.** They should be fully equipped with both an indoor and outdoor kit. Please provide hair bands to tie back long hair. Should your child have pierced ears, tape must be provided to cover the earrings during PE times in accordance with Health and Safety rules. Please refer to the School Newsletter to remind yourselves about rules regarding school uniform.
- As a 'Healthy School' we want to promote water as the best drink through the day. Children are expected to arrive at school with a water bottle which they can access in the classroom. It is very disruptive if a child has to leave the classroom to get a drink.
- By now we all know the value of reading regularly and the enjoyment that comes with it. Your child should endeavor to spend a minimum of 5 - 10 minutes each day in some form of reading. Please ensure reading record books are signed by a parent/ guardian. They will be checked every Friday.
- My 'surgery' day is Thursday but feel free to try to catch me as and when you need to.
- **Homework will continue to be given out to reinforce concepts covered in class. I thank you in advance for supporting your child with their learning at home.**

C Kay

Year 5 Class Teacher