



Year 5

Wednesday 4th January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you all managed to enjoy some relaxation time over the Christmas break despite all the illness that was going around during the end of last term! I would like to say a really big thank you to you all for your support during this time (especially over the Christmas production), the resilience and perseverance shown by the children was phenomenal and I was very proud of how flexible and adaptable everyone was.

I am very excited about our new term's topic of: FROZEN KINGDOMS. We will be delving into this geography focused topic by exploring the locations of our planet's 'frozen kingdoms' - the Arctic circle and Antarctica. Continuing to deepen our skills in atlas and map work, we will also be exploring the physical features of the frozen kingdoms and making comparisons between them and those here in the UK. We will be linking our geography explorations with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and our battle with climate change and answering big questions including: **How is climate change affecting the frozen kingdoms and what impact does that have on the rest of our planet?**

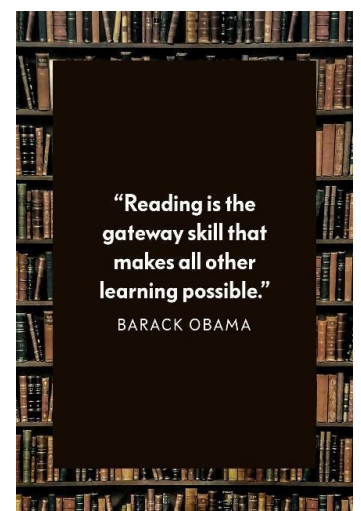
We love Literacy!

We will be starting the term with some rich figurative language poetry to develop our understanding of the use of language to build a picture. After unpicking a key text, Robert McFarlane's 'Lost Words' and identifying the structures of different acrostic poems, we will challenge ourselves with creating our own acrostic poems to describe the geography of Antarctica. As the term progresses, we will be immersing ourselves into narrative writing with our class text, 'The Wolf Wilder'. We will be analysing the features of this story and evaluating their purpose to prepare us for our own writing. We will broaden our writing skills by exploring the use of different sentence structures, rich vocabulary, figurative language and a range of punctuation.

Reading and Home Learning

As I am sure you all already know, reading takes a high priority in your child's learning - it is the foundation of all learning and understanding of the world. Every afternoon we prioritise time for reading for pleasure and share our experiences of different books. We also have our class text 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' by Onjali Q Rauf which the children are really enjoying. I will also lead a whole class guided reading session, at least once a week, which will involve a sharing of a range of text types. This is to support your child's growing breadth of vocabulary, decoding of unfamiliar words and comprehension of a text.

The expectation in Year 5 is for your child to read with an adult for at least 10 minutes 5x weekly.



Additionally, when it will benefit your child's learning inside of the classroom, I will be sending out home learning tasks on Class Dojo. These tasks will either be related to English or Maths and will only take 10 minutes.

Finally, I will be uploading the Year 5 and 6 Statutory Spelling List to our Class Dojo for you to practise these spellings with your child.

PE

PE. will be on Wednesdays with Miss Gibson this term and the focus is: netball. To ensure that we get the maximum enjoyment and learning from our physical activity, can you ensure that your child has ALL the correct P.E. kit for each session and can come to school on Wednesdays in their kit. In addition to our formal PE lessons, we will also be taking part in the DPA Mile Run at least 1x a week which will also be involving a UN Sustainable Development Goal fundraiser!

Stationery

Please support your child to ensure that they have a range of different handwriting pens, pencils, a sharpener and a glue stick. The glue stick is really needed in school, for the sticking in of the daily numeracy and literacy home learning tasks into books, along with many other activities and tasks across the curriculum.

Rebekah Hester

Year 5 Class Teacher

