

**'It's time to trust my instincts, close my eyes, and leap. It's time to try defying gravity.'**

# **Defying Gravity: What Makes Us Who We Are?**

## **Handwriting Champions!**

**As a school we are focussing on the development of handwriting and encouraging all children to take pride in the presentation of their work. Handwriting practise in any form (writing jokes, stories or letters) is beneficial, so please inspire your child to write with care whenever you can. When writing please encourage your child to: have both feet on the floor, have a relaxed pen-grip, have enough elbow space, use their non-writing hand to rest on the paper and have their paper tilted slightly.**



**A warm welcome back to all Year 5 children and parents! I hope you had a wonderful Easter break. We had a fantastic Spring Term, full of adventures around Nottingham, original creations and superb assemblies, which allowed all the children to shine. This term, we will continue to inspire creativity and vision by exploring the topic, Defying Gravity: What Makes Us Who We Are?**

**In RE we will focus on *Transformation*, a topic which will allow us to look at the power of faith and spirit. Consequently, we will move onto *Freedom and Responsibility*, during which we will explore free will and the power we have to do good in the world. After this, we will study the theme of *Stewardship* and our growing responsibility in the world. Throughout this term, we will be ultimately exploring our purpose in the world and how we can make a difference. Our other world faith will be Islam, where we will study their special celebrations and encourage respect for faiths around the world.**

**English: As always, we will link our English work to our topic and study a range of texts linked with the choices we have and what makes us who we are. We will also develop the children's speaking and listening through debate and drama; whilst always keeping a focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar to ensure they have a strong understanding of the English language.**

**Maths: As I'm sure Year 5 have told you, we are continually tackling bolder and more challenging problems in maths. Accordingly, Year 5 are growing in resilience and readiness for these challenges and this progress will continue this term. A consistent practice of mental maths and all four operations will also ensure Year 5 have all the skills to tackle the mathematical challenges they will come up against.**

*as someone told me lately*  
**EVERYONE  
DESERVES  
THE CHANCE  
TO FLY**

## Help from home!

- **Please check Homework diaries regularly to ensure your child is reading every day.** Diary checks are made on a Tuesday so please make sure your child has their diary signed by an adult. Homework diaries are a great form of home-school communication and if you have any queries, please feel to make a note of them. Please ensure your child knows to show me the note and then I will deal with the query as promptly as I can.
- **Reading every day is essential.** Please discuss characters, themes, plots and ask for your child's opinions on the books they are reading; this will help with their success in English. Recording this information in their homework diary is extremely useful evidence of their reading.
- After discussion with Year 5, they voiced that they would prefer their homework spread out over the week, therefore their homework will now be given out on a Tuesday and a Friday. They will write the homework due-date in their diaries but generally they are given a week to complete the task. It is essential for children to have their Homework Diaries with them in school.
- **Year 5 are encouraged regularly to complete their homework over several days** so that they do not have the stress of completing it the night before; they are also reminded that they need to have a responsible attitude towards the homework themselves. They might need the odd reminder at home to get their homework done in good time. Year 5 are given regular verbal feedback about all work, including homework. Year 5 are regularly reminded to speak to me if they are struggling with homework or any learning tasks.
- It is very important that all children can recall their number facts quickly and correctly, so when possible **please encourage your child to practise their multiplication, division, addition and subtraction skills.** There are some great online mental maths games– please check the Year 5 blog for ideas.
- Year 5 will have sports coaching on a Thursday afternoon and Dance on a Friday so **full PE kit needs to be in school all week.**
- **Children will be given a list of spellings each week.** We will study the words at school but practise at home will be needed too. A useful way to practise spellings is to include them in interesting or funny sentences.
- Please look to the sheets you were given at Parent Consultations for curriculum targets that can be tackled at home.

### Key Dates

- 26<sup>th</sup> April, 6:30pm: Dance Showcase  
28<sup>th</sup> April, 9am: Whole School Mass  
18<sup>th</sup> May, 1:30pm: KS2 Sports Day  
30<sup>th</sup> May- 3<sup>rd</sup> June: May Half Term  
8<sup>th</sup> June: Yr. 5 and 6 visit to London  
9<sup>th</sup> June: First Holy Communion Whole School Mass  
16<sup>th</sup> June, 10:30am: Swimming Gala  
23<sup>rd</sup> June: Yr 5 visit to the Becket  
1<sup>st</sup> July: Inset Day  
7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> July, 7pm: Summer Musical Performances  
12<sup>th</sup> July: Leavers' Mass and Disco  
15<sup>th</sup> July: Pupil Reports: 1:30pm Oscars  
22<sup>nd</sup> July: Last Day of Term

### Topic:

**Throughout our topic this term we will be exploring Forces and Micro-organisms in Science. What causes gravity? How can we use forces to our advantage? What are micro-organisms and why are they important? How can we defy gravity? Through Geography and History, we will investigate how London has changed over the years and what events have caused these developments. Adventuring outside, we will explore the beauty in nature through our Forest School and Art lessons. Furthermore, we are particularly excited for Year 5 to try getting creative in the kitchen and cooking a range of meals! Year 5 will continue to have music lessons and weekly opportunities for sports outside.**

Keep up to date with our investigations and creations by visiting our blog at [www.brwacadamy.com](http://www.brwacadamy.com)

What We  
Learn  
BECOMES A PART OF  
WHO WE  
ARE

**It has been wonderful to see all of Year 5 grow and blossom since September, and I am very excited to support them in their learning in the final term of the year. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to get in touch so we can discuss them further. Thank you for your support and help. Miss Cotter**