

"We must become the change we want to see in the world."

Mohandas Gandhi

A Whole New World: How Will You Make Your Mark?

When did you last let
your heart decide?

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, 'A Whole New World: How Will You Make Your Mark?'

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 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. This will cross over with our History and Geography topics, which will also explore the Islamic country of Saudi Arabia.

English: As always, we will link our English work to our topic and study a range of texts linked with new worlds, Arabian tales and making a difference. 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: We are continually tackling bolder and more challenging problems in maths. Year 5 have been set challenges by all sorts of characters, including Lord Sugar and Meerkats; and they are growing in resilience and readiness for these problems! 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. Our new topics for this term will be Geometry, Statistics and Measure.

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.



What you do makes a difference,
and you have to decide what kind
of difference you want to make.



Help from home!

- **Please check Homework diaries regularly for weekly information about your child's work and progress.** Please sign diaries weekly- the previous week will now be checked on a Monday. Your child should be filling in every day what pages they have been reading.
 - *"You should write because you love the shape of stories and sentences and the creation of different words on a page. Writing comes from reading, and reading is the finest teacher of how to write." – Annie Proulx.*
- 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. If you don't think your child is enjoying their reading book, please encourage them to speak to me and we can find one they are eager to devour and enjoy!
- Usually, Year 5 will be given homework each week on a **Wednesday and a Friday,** however this can occasionally change due to timetable changes. They will be reminded to write down their homework and its due date in their diary. As Year Fives, they are encouraged to take responsibility for remembering to complete their homework but they may need the odd reminder from someone at home to get it done! **Your children are encouraged regularly to complete their homework over several days** so that they do not have the stress of completing it the night before. Year 5 are given regular verbal feedback about all work, including homework. They are regularly reminded to speak to me if they are struggling with homework or any Learning tasks, and if you have any queries about the homework, please do not hesitate to speak to me.
 - 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 but **full PE kit needs to be in school all week in case we head outside for any other PE activities**
 - Children will be given a list of spellings each week on a Tuesday. These will be tested the following Tuesday. Please keep a check of these regularly. 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.

Topic:

Throughout our topic this term we will be exploring Forces and Electricity, and Life Cycles in **Science**. How do we light up our houses? How can we use forces to our advantage? What are the differences between the life cycle of a bird and mammal?

Through **Geography and History**, we will investigate how Saudi Arabia has developed and the changes during the Islamic Golden Age. Adventuring outside, we will explore the beauty in nature through more of our **Forest School** sessions. In DT, we will be exploring mechanisms and Middle Eastern cooking! Year 5 will have **Sports Coaching** on a Thursday afternoon and **Dance sessions** on Friday afternoons. Our **Artwork** will be based upon beautiful Islamic artwork.

Key Dates:

Friday 21st April—DARE Assembly 2:45

Wednesday 17th May—KS2 Sports Day 1.30pm

Thursday 18th May—KS2 Film Night

Friday 19th May—Eco Morning

Thursday 25th May - Yrs 5/6 Visit of London

Tuesday 13th June—Science Visit to the Becket

Thursday 29th June - Whole School Mass

Thursday 6th July / Friday 7th July—Musical performances

Thursday 13th July—Celebration Picnic

Friday 14th July— Visit to the Becket / Reports out.

Thursday 20th July—Whole School Mass

Tuesday 25th July—Last Day of Term

Keep up to date with our imaginations by visiting our blog at

www.brwacadamy.com

*What they think doesn't matter.
It's what you think that counts.*

I feel very lucky to have had the opportunity to see all of your children grow and blossom since September, and I am very excited to support them in their learning in this final term. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to get in touch so we can discuss them further. As always, thank you for your support and help.

Miss Cotter