

Here's to New Beginnings...

A very warm welcome back to all Year 5 pupils and families! I hope you had an enjoyable and restful summer. The theme for this year is **DIG AND DISCOVER, MAKE AND MASTER. Throughout this year, we hope to work with you to stimulate your children's imagination, ambitions, hopes and dreams! As your children are now in Upper Key-Stage-Two, I'm sure they are eager to take on the new responsibilities and challenges that come with it.**

Within our year's theme, our Autumn topic will be,

Tudor Tyranny and Treason: How did Henry VIII master his monarchy?

We will be delving into the 'terrible Tudors' era and immersing ourselves in historical literature and knowledge.



Key Dates:

- 11th September: Swimming Starts
- 13th September: Roald Dahl Day
- 14th September: Whole School Mass
- 12th October: BRW's Diamond Jubilee Mass
- 18th October: Parent Consultations 4-7pm
- 17th October: Parent Consultations 1:30-3:30pm
- 19th October: Harvest Mass
- 1st November: Whole School Mass/ KS2 Film Night
- 3rd November: Year 5 Assembly
- 16th November: Yrs 5 & 6 Class Mass
- 1st December: Advent Celebrations 7pm
- 12th December: MAT Academy Concert
- 15th December: Carols Around The Tree
- 21st December: Whole School Mass
- 8th January: School Starts Back

Throughout **RE** the children will be exploring their talents and gifts through the topic of 'Ourselves'. They will also have chance to look forward and consider their 'Life choices' and how to make the right choices whilst spreading the Good News. The topic of 'Hope', just before Christmas, will allow the children to think about using our faith to hope and how to use our time wisely whilst waiting. Our exploration of another World Faith– Sikhism – will give us chance to consider the topic of community and the communities we are part of.

English: As our topic is centred around the Tudors, we will be devouring children's books linked to the historical era. We will be fostering our poetic skills and using our imagination to create original pieces of writing. There will be lots of discussion and group writing to ensure the children can confidently use the skills when asked to independently. As always, there will be a focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar to ensure Year 5 produce writing of the highest quality.

Maths: Year 5 will deepen their understanding of mental and written methods to ensure they have a range of ways to solve problems. We will look at contextualised problems that will encourage the children's independence in maths so they become life-long mathematicians.

*don't ever lose
your sense
of wonder*

In **Science** we will be questioning and investigating scientific concepts in order to explore real science. We will be focusing on mixtures, solutions, irreversible changes. To enthuse the children, we will be exploring Tudor medicines and the solutions they created. Another topic will be Light and Shadow, with links to Tudor puppetry.

History will allow us time to explore the fascinating life of Henry VIII and we shall consider how the Tudor era impacts upon British life today. Did you know... Henry VIII set up the first Royal Postal system! **Geography** will focus on our local area of Clifton and will allow the children to develop their geographical skills whilst conducting fieldwork.

Art will allow us to explore the work of Hans Holbein the Younger (a Tudor artist) and end with the children making their own stained glass windows. In **DT** we will explore pulley systems and rotational movement in shadow puppets.

In **PE** we will be playing invasion games to develop our team work. In Year Five, we have weekly **swimming lessons** on a Monday afternoon. During this time, the children will develop their water confidence skills and fluency of different swimming strokes, in the hope of working towards a swimming badge. We also hope to spend some time at Glapton Woods to develop our confidence and respect for nature and the environment in our **Forest Schools** programme.

Year Five will also be studying **French**, building up a basic vocabulary and essential conversation skills through singing and other interactive media. Pupils will have an opportunity to practice their pronunciation through speaking and listening activities. In **Computing**, the children will be able to develop their coding and inventive skills, whilst working with a variety of software.

“
Education is
the most **POWERFUL**
WEAPON
which you can use
to **change**
the **WORLD**.
”
-Nelson Mandela

If you have good
thoughts, they will
shine out of your face
like sunbeams and you
will always look lovely
Roald Dahl

We are having a Roald Dahl dress-up day on Wednesday 13th September! Use clothes at home to make a scrumdiddlyumptious costume!

Help from home!

1. Please check Homework diaries regularly for weekly information about your child's work and progress. **Diary checks will be made on a Monday. Year 5 will be expected their previous week's page to be filled in with their reading successes and signed by an adult.**
2. Children will be given homework each week on a **Tuesday and a Friday (English/Maths)**. They will be reminded to write down their homework and its due date in their diary and, as Year 5s, 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! Homework is not something that should worry them and I will remind them that if they are ever struggling to complete a homework task, then they should come and see me.
3. 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. It is an essential skill.
4. *“Books shouldn't be daunting, they should be funny, exciting and wonderful; and learning to be a reader gives a terrific advantage.” — Roald Dahl.* **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.
5. **Swimming will be on a Monday afternoon every week.** Please ensure that children's swimming kits are in school. Please write a note your child's diary if you would like them to wear goggles. **Standard PE kit; should be in school all week.**
6. 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.

I am sincerely looking forward to getting to know your children more and working with you to help them achieve and succeed. Strong home-school links are key to ensuring that your children gain the best support from both school and home so, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to get in touch so we can discuss them further. Thank you in advance for your support over the coming term, it is much appreciated.

Miss Cotter