

**BE YOURSELF**

*but be your best self*

## Look Inside Yourself:

### How Will You Discover Your Place?

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

Mohandas Gandhi

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, laughter in learning and a thought-provoking liturgy ; these activities allowed all the children to shine, making us all very proud. This term, we will continue to inspire creativity and vision by exploring the topic, ‘Look Inside Yourself: How Will You Discover Your Place?’ This topic is designed to allow the children to make the most of their final term in Year 5, whilst preparing them for their next adventure in Year 6.

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.

**English:** As always, we will link our English work to our topic and study a range of texts linked to Africa, African Folk Tales and our RE topics. We even have a visit from a professional author booked in for Year 5! We will develop the children’s speaking and listening through debate and drama; whilst continually keeping a focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar to ensure they have a strong understanding of the English language. There will also be a focus on developing the children’s comprehension of the texts they read.

**Maths:** We are continually tackling bolder and more challenging problems in maths. Year 5 have been set challenges by all sorts of characters 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 Fractions, Decimals, Geometry, Statistics and Measure. Please encourage your child to practise their number facts at home—this is an essential life skill and a 10 minute practise every day can really help.

#### Handwriting Heroes

As a school we are focussed 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; be sat up appropriately and have their paper tilted slightly. If your child is unsure about joining letters, please refer to the handwriting policy sheet you were given at the first parents meeting. Just let me know if you need another copy.

You are more  
than what you have  
**become.**

—THE LION KING

TAKE PRIDE IN  
WHAT YOU DO  
& LET THE  
QUALITY OF  
YOUR WORK BE  
YOUR  
SIGNATURE

## Topic:

This term, in **Science**, we will be investigating how plants and animals adapted since the beginning of time. We will also be exploring microorganisms—what are the different types of microorganism and what do they do? We are lucky to have visitors from Nottingham University to tell us more about both these topics.

Through **Geography** and **History**, we will investigate the continent of Africa. What can we learn about the African Ancient City of Benin? How is the geography of Africa similar/ different to Britain?

Adventuring outside, we will explore the beauty in nature through our **Forest School** sessions. In **DT**, we will be exploring African cooking. Get ready for some Year 5 sous chefs at home! There is a final **Tennis** session (Date– TBC), then Yr 5 will develop their **Athletics** skills. **Dance** sessions will be on Friday afternoon Our **Art** lessons will explore African art work, culminating in making African Masks. We will also continue our **Life Skills** lessons, which Year 5 have approached in a mature and thoughtful manner. We will also have two NFFC Street-awareness sessions as part of our life-skill development.

*The past can hurt.  
But the way I  
see it, you can  
either run from it  
or learn from it.*

*The Lion King*

## 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 is 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 **Tuesday 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.
- ◆ **Full PE kit needs to be in school all week.**
- ◆ 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. Your child should have their Mathletics and Time table Rockstars login stuck in their diary to use at home. These websites are excellent practice and the Year 5 classroom is often buzzing at lunch time with children who have chosen to come in and challenge each other on the online games.

*I can barely believe that the final term is upon us. It has been wonderful to see your children grow, mature and blossom since September. This final (and extremely busy) term will be a very exciting time for Year 5 as they take part in lots of inspiring activities such as the Musical and visits to the Becket. I am looking forward to seeing them all shine as performers and mature, responsible children. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to get in touch so we can discuss them further. I must also say a big thank you for your support over the past two terms and your future support in this coming term.*

*Miss Cotter*

## Key Dates:

Thursday 26th April—Author Visit

Friday 27th April/ Friday 4th May  
—NFFC Sessions—PE kits needed

Wednesday 23rd May—KS2 Sports Day

Time TBC—KS2 Film Night

Monday 4th June—Class Photos

Tuesday 5th June—Swimming Gala

Monday 11th June—Watch Performance at the Becket

Thursday 21st June—Open Afternoon

Friday 22nd June—Africa Day

Friday 29th June— Mass at CC Church

Tuesday 10th July—Musical 7pm

Wednesday 11th July—Musical 7pm

Friday 13th July—Yr 5 Becket Transition Day

Monday 23rd July—Whole School Mass

Tuesday 24th July—Last Day of Term

*Alone we can do  
so little;  
together we  
can do  
SO  
much.*

*-Helen Keller*