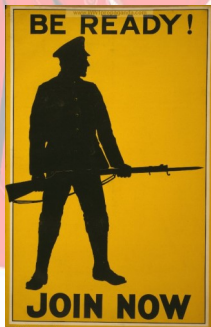


BE READY: How willing are you to do your bit?



Key Dates:

9th October, 4-7pm: Parents' Consultations

10th October, 1:30-3:30pm.: Parent's Consultations

25th October, 9am: Whole School Harvest Mass

25th October, 9am: International Evening

8th November, 9am: Yr 5 Class Assembly

15th November: KS2 Film Night

15th November, 9am: Yr 5 and 6 Class Mass

3rd December, 5:30pm: Advent Celebration

11th December: MAT Christmas Concert

19th December, 5:30pm: Carols Around the Tree and Christmas Jumper Day

20th December, 9am: Whole School Advent Mass

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 I Will. 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.

Throughout **RE** the children will be exploring their talents and gifts through the topic of 'Ourselves'.

They will also have a 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 WW1 and through our class text 'War Horse' by Michael Morpurgo, children will become familiar with a range of texts. 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.



EDUCATIONAL VISITS AND VISITORS

Alongside the above visit, we hope to enjoy an action packed day at Sherwood Pines, where we will explore a replica trench, take part in Forest Schools, and maybe even conquer some fears at Go Ape! Details to follow.

In **Science** we will explore the different parts of keeping healthy and the importance of a balanced lifestyle. Additionally, we will discover forces and electricity, using WW1 technology as our inspiration.

History will allow us time to explore the causes of WW1 and the impact this had, the role of horses during the war, trench life and the importance of remembrance.

DT will allow us to design and create our own miniature trenches using woodwork! We will be inspired by our visit to Sherwood Pines and use our electricity knowledge to light them up. In **Art** we will take inspiration from Muirhead Bones' famous war art, by developing our own pieces using poppies.

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.



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 to have their previous week's page 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 Andrew