



Federation Headteacher Miss J Concannon
<http://www.knaphillfederationofschools.org.uk/>

Thursday 6th September 2018

A warm welcome to the Autumn Term in Year 5

Dear Parent/Guardian

We hope you have all had an enjoyable and restful summer holiday and that your child is settling back into the school routine. Miss Law (5L), Mr Alderton (5A) and Miss Ring (5R) would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your children to Year 5. It is a very exciting year and there's so much for the children to look forward to.

This term we will be learning about 'Space Quest' and we have planned many engaging learning opportunities around this theme. So that you are able to support your child in their learning, please see our topic outline accompanying this letter. We will, wherever possible, make cross-curricular links to make the learning more meaningful to the children. All teachers will be available on Thursday 13th September in the Hall, to answer any questions you may have about the term ahead. This session will start at 3.30pm session will end at 4.30pm.

Curriculum Books

We would be extremely grateful if you could supply sticky backed plastic to cover all of your child's books and ensure that it is done in order to protect your child's work. Please find your child's Maths, Maths Homework, Science, English, English Homework, Homework Diary, French and Guided Reading books which will need to be covered. Once the children have decorated the front covers of their new Topic Books, we will be sending them home to also be covered with sticky backed plastic.

Whole Class Guided Reading

Following a successful trial in the summer term, across the junior school, we will now be delivering regular whole class Guided Reading sessions. These will enable children of all attainment bands to be immersed in the same high quality literature and discussions. The weekly reading focus will be shared as part of English homework rather than in the children's homework diaries. Every child will read with either the Teacher or Teaching Assistant within a whole class, guided group or individually at least once a week.

Homework Diaries

In Year 5, we are encouraging the children to be more self-reliant and self-sufficient, taking increasing responsibility for their own learning and progress. The children will be expected to use homework diaries to record their homework, spellings and reading. Parents and staff can also add comments to the reading section and message section for teacher/parent communication. We would like you to check the children's homework diaries on a weekly basis and sign to indicate that you have looked at it. Your child should read for at least 10 minutes every night and record what they have read in their homework diary. Please remind your child that they need their homework diary in school every day.



Information about Homework

Homework will be set for English, Maths and Topic.

English:

This will be handed out on a Monday and should be returned by Wednesday. Spelling lists will also be given out on a Tuesday. The children should glue these into homework diaries. We expect children to practise their spellings at home regularly. If your child does not understand the meaning of a word, please encourage them to look it up in a dictionary and to practise using the word in a sentence.

Maths:

This will be handed out on a Wednesday, and should be returned by Friday. Every other week, Maths homework will be set on Mathletics, an online resource. All children have been given their log in and password. We would greatly appreciate your help in assisting your child learn their times tables - there are many ways to make learning these fun – songs, computer games, and flashcards for example.

Topic:

In order to promote more responsibility for their own learning, the children will be given an exciting Space project to complete over the course of the term. All details and instructions will be included when they receive their task sheet and the different activities will be explained clearly to them at school. A copy will be put on the Year 5 page on the website.

PE Kits and Stationery

Your children will need P.E kits in schools on the following days:

- **5L:** Every Tuesday and Friday
- **5A:** Every Tuesday and Wednesday
- **5R:** Every Wednesday and Thursday

It would be extremely beneficial if these could be fully labelled so that any lost property can be quickly returned to its owner. This would also be useful in regards to stationery that the children bring to class in their pencil cases. We will provide your child with a handwriting pen. We kindly ask that children's pencil cases have the following items:

- Glue Stick
- Colouring Pencils
- HB Pencils
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Calculator
- Dictionary
- Thesaurus

Reading

Should you wish to share some Space themed books with your child, below is a recommended book list for our topic:

Fiction

- George's Secret Key to the Universe - Lucy and Stephen Hawking
- George's Cosmic Treasure Hunt (George's Secret Key to the Universe) - Lucy and Stephen Hawking
- George and the Big Bang (George's Secret Key to the Universe) - Lucy and Stephen Hawking
- The time and Space of Uncle Albert - Russell Stannard
- Star Seeker – Theresa Heine
- The Story of the Exploration of Space (Adventures in the Real World) – Penny Clarke



Non-Fiction

- Space A Children's Encyclopedia (Dk Reference) - Fiona Watt and Paul Nicholls
- The Usborne Official Astronaut's Handbook (Handbooks) - Louie Stowell and Roger Simo
- The Planets (Dk Astronomy)
- Space, Stars and Slimy Aliens (Horrible Science) - Nick Arnold
- Knowledge Encyclopedia Space! (Dk Reference)

In English, we will be reading 'The Jupiter Chronicles - The Secret of the Great Red Spot' by Leonardo Ramirez and it would be very helpful if you could please buy a copy of the book for your child to use in class.

Key Dates

During the course of the term, there are also key dates which link to our new topic:

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Macmillan Coffee Morning
(organised and run by Year 5 but for all parents) | Friday 28 th September |
| • 5L Class Assembly | Friday 9 th November |
| • Parents' Evening | Tuesday 16 th October (3.30pm - 6pm) |
| • Parents' Evening | Thursday 18 th October (5pm - 8pm) |
| • Planetarium Visit and Space Day (Dress up) | Monday 12 th November |

Using feedback from parents, each class will have one class assembly this year. Please note that all class assembly dates for 2018- 2019 can be viewed on the school calendar on the school's website.

If you have any queries throughout the school year, the Year 5 Team will be on the school gates every Tuesday after school. You can also send messages to us via your child's homework diary or by personal letter. Should you have anything you wish to discuss, which would require a more lengthy discussion then please don't hesitate to book an appointment through the office to see your child's class teacher. This will ensure that a mutually convenient time can be arranged.

We are all very much looking forward to a full and fruitful term and we thank you in advance for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Law
(Year Leader)

Mr Alderton

Miss Ring

