



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

Friday 4th January 2019

A warm welcome to the Spring Term in Year 5

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We hope you have all had an enjoyable and restful Christmas break and that your child is now refreshed and ready for the term ahead. It is a very exciting term and there is so much for the children to look forward to.

This term we will be learning about Our Active Planet 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 10th January in the hall to answer any questions you may have about the term ahead. This session will start at 3.20pm and will end at 4.10pm. Please be mindful that you will need to supervise your children during this time.

Topic Books

Once the children have decorated the front covers of their new Topic Books, we will be sending them home to be covered with sticky backed plastic. We would be extremely grateful if you could supply this and cover your child's book in order to protect their work. Please let your child's class teacher know if you are unable to do this.

Homework Diaries

A gentle reminder that your child should read for at least 10-15 minutes every night. Please ensure that this is then recorded in their homework diary. Please could you check your child's homework diary on a weekly basis and sign to indicate that you have looked at it. Please also remind your child that they need their homework diary in school every day.

Homework

English: This will continue to be handed out on a Monday and should be returned by Wednesday. On Tuesday, Spelling lists will also be given. The children should glue these into their 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. We would also greatly appreciate your help in assisting your child to learn their times tables - there are many ways to make learning these fun, for example, songs, computer games, and flashcards.

Topic: We have been so impressed with the standard of homework produced in the Autumn term, so thank you for all the support, time and effort put into the projects. We are very excited to see what will be produced this term! In order to promote more responsibility for their own learning, the children will be given an exciting Active Planet 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 also be put under the Year 5 page on our school website.

PE Kits and Stationery

Your children will need P.E kits in school 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, once they have achieved their pen licence. We kindly ask that children's pencil cases have the following items:

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

Reading

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

Fiction

- The Genie in the Bottle by Hugh Montgomery and Matt Murphy
- The Paperbag Prince by Colin Thompson
- The Tin Forest by Helen Ward
- The Firework-Maker's Daughter by Philip Pullman

Non-Fiction

- Doris Kinderseley Earth (Eyewitness Project books)
- Volcanoes (National Geographic Kids)
- Extreme Weather (National Geographic Kids)
- National Geographic Kids Everything Weather: Facts, Photos, and Fun That Will Blow You Away
- Extreme Planet (National Geographic Kids)
- Floodland by Marcus Sedgwick

We would also recommend the following website for an online magazine about the environment:

<http://jointhepod.org/student-zone/ezines>

In English, we will be using 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes as our main text. We would recommend that each child has their own copy of this text in school if possible.

Key Dates

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

Curriculum Drop in (Hall)
5A Class Assembly
Environmental Campaign

Thursday 10th January 2019
Friday 22nd March 2019
Thursday 28th March 2019



If you have any queries throughout the school year, the Year 5 Team will be available on the school gates on a 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 do not 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

