



Highlights from last term ...

British Science Week



We had so much fun during our science themed parental engagement, exploring chromatography, how many water droplets we could put on a coin and what happens when we put skittles (sweets!) in water. A huge thank you to all that managed to attend this session. We hope that your budding scientists carried on the fun at home!

Pottery Workshop



All 3 classrooms were full of beaming faces throughout our incredible pottery workshop. Mike was so patient with all children and everyone had an opportunity to create their own 'Greek' style pot using the potter's wheel. When the pots have been fired and returned to us, children will be able to bring their masterpieces home!

Curriculum and topic this term:

English: This term the children will be starting by exploring and completing **'Detailed timelines'**. Later in the term they will be writing another **narrative piece** and also creating **poetry**, following our new 'Write Stuff' approach – the children will tell you all about this. They will continue to develop and improve their knowledge and understanding of year 5 spelling and grammar/punctuation rules, and there will be an emphasis on encouraging reading for pleasure (see below).

Maths: In mathematics this term, we will be following the objectives outlined in the National Curriculum. Our main foci for this term will be: **'Fractions'**, **'Decimals and Percentages'**, **'Geometry: Properties of Shape'**, **'Geometry: Position and Direction'**, and **'Measurement: Converting Units'**.

Science: This term we will initially be continuing our **'Earth and Space'** topic. Children will learn about the planets in our solar system, describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth, describe the shapes of the Earth, Sun and Moon and use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the Sun across the sky. We will then study **'Living things and their habitats'**, where children will be describing the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, amphibian, an insect and a bird. They will also describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. Finally, we will explore **'Animals including humans'** and children will describe the changes a human body goes through.

Topic: Our topic for the first half term is based on the **history of the Roman Empire** and will kick off with a **fantastic experience day** to introduce the whole topic (Friday 29th April). In this topic, the children will learn about key events that took place during the Roman period and order these chronologically. They will learn all about what Roman towns were like in Britain and be able to describe Roman life. Towards the end of this topic, they will also learn about how Britain attempted to resist the Roman invasion.

After half term, our topic will be geography-based and our question will be: **'Which European team would you like to play for?'** The children will name and locate the 7 continents and European countries (and their major cities). They will also compare geographical similarities and differences between the UK and a European region.

R.E: Our R.E questions for this term are: **'What would Jesus do?'** and **'Why do some people believe in God and some do not?'**

Art: In art this term, we will be studying the work of **Sir Christopher Wren** and the children will be developing their sketching skills through the study of architecture.

DT: In the second half of this term, the children will be focusing on the nutritional needs of an athlete, designing and making a food/drink dish.

French: This term we will be focusing on **'Hobbies'**.

PE: This half-term we will have a weekly **Dance** and **Games** session (**athletics**). Next half-term we will be developing our **rounders** skills.

Reminders

Please help us to keep your children fit and healthy by ensuring that they come into school in their PE uniform on the correct days:

5B - Tuesday (Dance) and Wednesday (Games).

5S – Tuesday (Dance) and Thursday (Games).

5BT – Tuesday (Dance) and Wednesday (Games).



Children being excused from physical education for a medical reason should bring a note.

If your child is **asthmatic** please could you ensure that they have an inhaler, labelled with their name, in school **at all times!**

As many of you already know, we are a healthy eating school and we would like to remind you that children should only bring in fruit to eat at break times. It is also very important children have a water bottle in school – we strongly encourage children to drink plenty of water throughout the day. Water helps keep them hydrated but also improves their levels of concentration and learning.



UNIFORM

All pupils are required to wear school uniform. Can we remind you that this is; purple jumper (not PE hoodie), white or purple polo shirt both with or without logo, grey trousers or shorts, grey skirt or grey pinafore. During the hot weather a purple/ white gingham checked dress is permitted. On the children's PE day, they need to wear their PE uniform which is grey/black joggers or shorts (shorts are preferable for Dance lessons), a purple t-shirt, a purple PE hoodie or jumper and trainers. Please ensure all uniform is clearly named. All uniform can be purchased from Club Sport.

Homework

Please support your child with their home reading, as well as any spellings or times tables they may need to learn. Each half term, we will also set a task around our current topic and this will be available for you to access on the school website. Please ask your children if they have any homework and give them every encouragement to do it – we greatly value your support in this area.

Reading

During the summer term, we will be monitoring the children's reading journals and holding a reading competition between the year 5 classes based on when they read at home. Please be aware that we will only be asking the children to record in their journals at home (not in school). When your child reads to you, please can you sign their reading journal to confirm this. If a child successfully reads at least three times during a week, they will gain a point for their class. Reading journals will be monitored every Friday, so please ensure your child brings their journal into school on this day. At the end of the term, the class with the most points will have an extra break time! We will also be awarding a prize to the child in each class who has read the most at home – this will be judged against the number of adult signatures recorded in their reading journal.

We are keen to foster a love of reading and a passion for books, rather than reading becoming a chore to be ticked off! Therefore, please make every effort to make reading a pleasurable part of your child's routine by, for example: finding a calm and comfortable time and place to read, reading and enjoying books together, chatting about what has happened (or might happen next), talking to them about your own favourite stories etc. Children can only begin to truly love reading if enough time is actually spent engaging with their books, so we ask that you help them to find these precious moments within their very busy days– thank you so much for your support.



Special Events

Meet the Romans workshop

On **Friday 29th April** children will participate in a Romans workshop. The workshop will be hands on, and active, teaching the children all about the Romans in a fun and educational way. They will also have the opportunity to see and handle a range of objects and artefacts from the period. As part of this exciting day, we would like the children to dress up in Roman costume, perhaps as centurion, a Roman god, or a Roman citizen.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration Day

On **Thursday 26th May**, we will be celebrating this historic event. Children may come to school in red, white and blue, or even some royal attire if they wish!

Sports Day

Year 5 Sports Day is due to take place on **Friday 1st July**. We are hoping to be able to invite parents along but a letter will follow nearer to the date.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Monday 25 th April	Children return to school
Tuesday 26 th April	5B Forest School (pm)
Wednesday 27 th April	5BT Forest School (pm)
Friday 29 th April	‘Meet the Romans’ workshop
Tuesday 3 rd May	5BT Forest School (pm)
Friday 6 th May	5B Forest School (pm)
Thursday 26 th May	Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebration Day
Half Term	
Friday 1 st July	Year 5 and 6 Sports Day (Morning)
Friday 8 th July	LPS Carnival Parade
Wednesday 13 th July	5S Forest School (pm)
Wednesday 20 th July	5S Forest School (pm)

Yours sincerely

The Year 5 Team: Miss S Cartwright (Assistant Head), Miss Brookes, Mrs Brookes, Mrs Thomas and Mr Summers