Year 5/6 - Autumn 2026 Newsletter

Welcome back! We are so impressed with how the children have returned from the summer and the enthusiasm they are showing for their new learning. At the school, The Pillars of our Curriculum underpin everything we do and this term we have a big focus on the pillar of Sustainability and Change as we delve into the physical and human impacts of Earthquakes and Volcanoes. The children will also be developing their understanding of Diversity & Equality as they explore people who overcame race and gender barriers in the space race.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **Library Books:** Children can ask to change these any day they need to.
- **PE:** children need to have a fully labelled, complete PE kit in school every day.
- **Reading:** Children's 'Book of Books' should be kept updated and in school bags each day.
- **Mobile phones:** Mobile phones should not be brought into school unless there is a specific reason to do so e.g. walking to and from school. In this case, we will arrange for the phone to be kept safely in the school office during the day.
- **Homework:**
  - **Spellings:** These are set on a Thursday – please see your emails and practice at home.
  - **IXL:** Homework is set every Monday and should be completed by the following Monday. Year 5 will receive maths. Year 6 will receive maths and English.

KEY DATES

- Year 6 at Fairthorne Manor - w/c 21st September
- Parents Evening - 5th and 7th October
- Art Fair - 8th October
- Harvest Festival - 9th October
- Flu Vaccination - 16th October
- Inset Day - 2nd November
- Individual School Photos - 16th November
- Be Bright Be seen for Children in Need - 20th November
- Christmas School Disco - 14th December
- Christmas Dinner day - 17th December
- Candlelit Carols in church - 18th December
- Year 6 Remembrance Service at the Memorial – 11th November at 10:45am
- Year 6 Bikeability - 18th - 20th November

SCHOOL ENRICHMENT: TRIPS, VISITORS AND EXPERIENCES

- Fairthorne Manor – 21st – 25th September
- Ancient Egypt day (date TBC)

THE PILLARS OF OUR CURRICULUM

This term, will be focusing on:

Sustainability & Change

Violent Earth Tectonic plates are continuously moving which causes change to our Earth. Humans must adapt to change.

Aspiration and Wellbeing

Space - Overcoming race and gender barriers. Black women and the space race.

OVERVIEW OF LEARNING IN YEAR 5-6 THIS HALF TERM

For more detailed information, please visit the **Our Curriculum** pages of our website. The .pdf version of this newsletter also includes links to some subject pages.

MATHS (click here for a detailed overview)

ENGLISH (click here for a detailed overview) Please see Year 5/6 Cycle B

SCIENCE

Life Cycles – We will be learning about life cycles including reproduction in plants; reproduction in some animals and the changes which occur as humans develop to old age. **Earth and Space** – We will be learning about our solar system including: the movement of Earth and other plants; the movement of the moon in relation to the Earth and the Earth's rotation.

MUSIC

Film Music - We will be learning about how different styles of music can contribute to mood and atmosphere in film and TV. We will be composing music using a graphic score and learning how music can evoke emotion. **Composing and notation** – We will be singing in time and in tune with each other and with backing tracks. We will also learn to identify the structure of a piece of music and play a melody with reasonable accuracy.

COMPUTING

Online safety – Over this half term, we will learn about how self-image and identity can be portrayed online and the risks and dangers associated with this. We will also be creating our own web pages linked to these ideas.

GEOGRAPHY

Violent Earth – We will be posing the question: What presents more thread to our world: Earthquakes or Volcanoes. This includes learning about the structure of the Earth including tectonic plates and boundaries, and the key aspects of volcanoes and earthquakes.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Sewing – Space themed wall hangings – We will be learning a variety of stitches for hand sewing and designing and creating an attractive wall hanging with a 'space' theme. This includes sewing techniques including applique.

RE

God – What does it mean if God is loving and holy? A Christianity focus on what God means to people, including Christians.

PSHE

VIPs – A close look into who our very important people are, why they mean so much to us and what we can do when things are tricky with them.