

Welcome to Year 5!

A new year and a new name! I have returned to school as Mrs Bradshaw after getting married during the Summer holidays. I'm looking forward to getting to know the class. The year ahead will include lots of hard work but lots of fun too. Here is some information you may find useful...

Dates for your diary

There will be a meeting for the parents of Years 4, 5 and 6 on **Thursday 27th September** to discuss reading expectations.

On **Wednesday 26th September**, we will be having a STEMWorks K'Nex Computer Control Workshop. The workshop will last for the entire day and will involve writing a program to control a model which the children will construct from K'nex. During the day, the children will work in teams and these will be assessed by the instructor; the best team will be invited to visit a local company with links to engineering for a half day event.

There will be two RE days: **Wednesday 3rd October** and **Monday 17th December**.

There will be a Harvest assembly on **Wednesday 17th October**.

The week commencing the **30th October** will be a Science Week linked to the topic of 'Forces'. The children will be invited to dress as Scientists for the week (old, white shirts make good lab coats) and they will be planning and carrying out a number of investigations to explore forces such as gravity, air resistance, friction and water resistance.

The Junior Carol Concert will be on **Wednesday 19th December** – more information to follow.

Please also keep a look out for a letter concerning our class trip to 'We The Curious' in December – more details will follow soon!

During the last couple of weeks before Christmas, we will be exploring the topic of 'Homelessness'. This will involve some fundraising for Shelter – a charity supporting those who are homeless. More information will be given nearer the time as the children will be helping to plan and run our fundraising initiative.

Homework

The children are responsible for changing their own books. We encourage reading at home every day and thank you for your continued support with this. The children's comment in their reading records should acknowledge something that is happening in the book and their thoughts on it. The children will be heard reading in school on a weekly basis during our Guided Reading sessions. Where possible we will also hear children read individually.

The children will be given and tested on new **spellings** every **Thursday** morning. We will give the children a book with a list of spellings in for them to practice at home each week. We will record their score in this book against the spellings tested for you to see how they are getting on.

The children have also been given a homework grid – they should choose a piece of homework to complete each week and hand this in each **Monday**.

Finally, they have been given a pack of multiplication grids. This needs to be completed before **Christmas**. They should time themselves as they complete each grid and record their time on the front cover.

Timetable

P.E is timetabled for **Wednesdays** and **Fridays**, however we do sometimes need to shuffle our timetable, so please can children have their kit in school every day. Long hair needs to be tied back and earrings removed or covered.

Mrs Nesbit will be teaching the class PE and French every Wednesday afternoon during Mrs Bradshaw's planning and preparation time (PPA).

A request for help

If any of you has any time to spare we would be delighted and grateful to have parental help in the classroom, particularly with reading.

The following is an overview of what we will cover between now and Christmas:

Themes – Egyptians/Space/Homelessness	
Subjects	Topics to be covered
Maths	The children will cover a wide range of mathematical skills that will be taught & applied daily. Work will be practical, fun and differentiated for the wide range of abilities within the class. Our main focuses will be: place value, addition and subtraction, statistics, multiplication and division, perimeter and area. The children will be applying their knowledge through investigations and problem solving activities. There will be an emphasis on reasoning and the children will be challenged to <i>explain</i> their thinking and <i>convince me</i> that their answer is correct.
English	We will be developing our reading, word and sentence level skills through a variety of different text types including: instructions, adventure stories, newspaper reports, explanation texts, poetry, non-chronological reports and persuasive texts. The children will also have daily spelling and grammar lessons, covering the Year 5 programme of study.
Computing	During Computing sessions, the children will be game developers. They will be creating original artwork and sound for their game; designing and creating a computer program for their game which uses sequence, selection, repetition and variables; detecting and correcting errors in their game; and using iterative development techniques to improve their game.
Science and Technology	In Science, the children will continue to learn to work scientifically, planning different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions. Forces – We will explain and identify the forces of gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction. We'll recognise that some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect. We will also learn about some significant scientists, such as Galileo Galilei and Isaac Newton. Space - We will describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system. We'll describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth and describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies. We will use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.

What Are Year 5 Learning About This Term?

PHSE	Regular Circle Time sessions offer a forum for exploring the Golden Rules, class rules and exploring any issues that arise. We will be following our new 'Jigsaw' scheme of work and will begin with the unit 'Being Me in My World', looking at how we fit in within our communities and learning to empathise with those whose lives are different to ours. We will also be looking at the British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs.
History	The children will learn about Ancient Egypt. They will investigate the men and women who studied the kingdoms and explore their discoveries. They will look at some of the Pharaohs and the development of the pyramids, as well as the mythology that surrounded this early civilisation. They will study the role the Nile had in allowing this civilisation to flourish and examine daily life, comparing it to our own.
Geography	The children will study human geography, looking at settlement, trade and economics along the River Nile. They will compare the geography of Egypt in modern times to Ancient Egypt. They will develop their map skills, using maps, atlases and globes to locate different countries and regions and label key features.
Art and Design	The children will be making pictures and other art-work connected with our topic theme, exploring a range of different media and techniques.
Physical Education	In Netball, children will develop their ball skills, their control and their attack and defence. They will perform dances using a range of movement patterns. They will learn to effectively work as a team in a competitive sporting environment.
R.E	As well as our celebrations of Harvest and Christmas, we will be having two RE days, exploring the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today? • Why do Christians believe Jesus was the Messiah?

We're really looking forward to teaching and getting to know all the children and to having a hard working term with lots of fun & exciting topics. If you do have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to come and see us. Mrs Bradshaw is available after school apart from staff meeting and club nights (TBC).

Best Wishes,

Mrs Bradshaw and Mrs Stevens - The Y5 Team.

