

8 January 2023.

Dear Parents,

We wish you warm wishes for the year ahead and welcome you back to school. We hope you have had a peaceful holiday with those close to you.

We have a busy, but exciting term ahead with a wonderful story focus based on a book called, 'A Story like the Wind' by Gill Lewis in literacy, followed by 'Hound of the Baskervilles' in the second half of the term. Our first reading for pleasure book is called, 'Crookhaven: The School for Thieves' by J.J Arcanjo.

In science, we will be learning about Earth and Space, which is always a popular topic, followed by living things and their habitats as the spring appears.

Our focus in RE is learning about celebrations and special days in many world faiths. The children will continue to split into their year 5 and 6 groups, respectively to take part in PSHE and My Happy Mind sessions. These are invaluable for the children, particularly as they are beginning to dip their toes into navigating an ever more challenging world.

In PE, we will be developing our gymnastic skills as well as practising our netball and hockey skills. Please ensure that PE kit is brought to school every Monday. A warm layer and a spare pair of socks is also important, especially if girls are wearing tights as it seems that winter weather is becoming increasing more prevalent in the first few months of the calendar year.

Homework is given out and posted on the school website every Wednesday and must be completed and returned by Tuesday of the following week. Mrs Lloyd will be continuing with the homework maths club on a Wednesday. After half term, we shall be increasing the homework a little for Year 6 pupils, to make sure that they are prepared for the tests in May. We will be covering aspects of grammar in class each week, and this is best secured by additional practice as homework. We will share more information about this separately. Our priority is to have minimum stress on your children and to keep the tests very low key, while also ensuring that they are confident.

We also have the excitement of preparing for the residential (as well as other trips) and will hold a meeting later in the term about it.

If you have any questions or need to discuss any issues with either of us, please let us know by email or in person at the beginning or end of the day. We are always very happy to chat with parents!

Cookery Club will be open for Year 5 pupils later this half term, by invitation only.

Mrs N Lloyd and Mrs M Yates

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