



Summer Term Newsletter 2019

Dear Parents of Year 5,

I hope you had an enjoyable Easter break.

You should all be very proud of your children who came on the residential trip, as they showed fantastic determination, perseverance and team work, and were wonderfully supportive of one another. The staff at Pixies Holt were very impressed by their attitudes and when we took them to the local shop, the ladies working there told us it had been an absolute pleasure to serve such lovely, polite children. Mrs Bolton, Mrs Fowler and I felt privileged to have the opportunity to spend a few days with them out of school. I have also heard very positive reports from the teachers about the group that stayed in school, who produced some excellent work independently and impressed staff with their maturity, team work and excellent behaviour. Well done everyone!

We have some lovely photos of the week; which I am sure you would like to see. Therefore, on Thursday 2nd May, I am inviting parents to come to the classroom at either 3.40pm or 5.30pm where I will have the photos on the whiteboard for you to see. I hope the children will also have their diaries ready to bring home by then.



Now, back to normality! As the weather is warming up, please ensure your child has sunscreen and a named sunhat when necessary.

A reminder that snacks and bottles should be in named containers. Children are only allowed fresh fruit or vegetables during first break, so they must bear that in mind when packing their lunch if they wish to have a snack then. They are allowed to have a sandwich in second break to keep them going until lunch. We are encouraging children to use pots and lunchboxes rather than cling-film and packeted items where possible, as part of our drive to reduce litter and throw-away plastics. Please also remember to name clothing, particularly school jumpers, as it makes rehoming them easier. There are some minor changes to the teachers working with Year 5 this term as a result of Mr Pavey leaving. Forest School will now be led by Mrs Berrisford and later in the term they will have Mrs Webb for an hour a week so she can begin to work with them and get to know them before transition into Year 6.



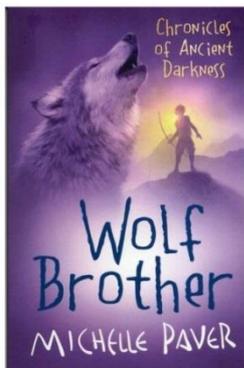
English

Our literacy and language topic this half-term involves reading stories from another culture, with a particular focus on *Dragon Slayer*, which is an adventure story set in China. We will be exploring using pace and suspense to add excitement to our own writing. For our non-fiction writing, we will be writing non-chronological reports about mythical creatures, linked to our reading of *Dragon Slayer*.

Love learning, work together, achieve and shine.



When we have completed this unit, we will be studying a play-script called *Father's Day* and examining how the writer uses dramatic conventions to show subtleties of character and the conflicting emotions experienced within a family. They will be performing sections of the play and writing an additional scene themselves.



The children voted for this term's class reader, *Wolf Brother*. I read this for the first time during the Easter holidays, and I have to say it was a brilliant book that they are going to really enjoy. It is full of suspense and excitement, and has some wonderful descriptive passages that will really help to develop their writing skills as well. It is the first in a series, so if your child expresses enthusiasm for this book, it would be worth a visit to the bookshop or library to find some of the other books in the series.

Literacy homework will continue as before. The homework book will begin on Wednesday 1st May.

When reading school books at home, please continue to read and sign the reading record at least 5 times a week to receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win a book token.

Please encourage your children to bring their spelling log books home and return them to school every day; they should use them to practise words they have struggled with in their writing, highlighting or ticking words once they have been learnt.

Maths

This term, we will:

- *review right angles, acute angles, obtuse angles and reflex angles,
- *use a protractor to measure angles,
- *name and describe 2D and 3D shapes,
- *measure and calculate the perimeter and area of 2D shapes,
- *find the volume of simple 3D shapes using cm^3
- *convert between units of lengths using mm, cm, m and km,
- *convert between units of mass using g and kg,
- *convert between units of time using sec, min, hrs, days, weeks, years,
- *read the temperature from a thermometer using negative numbers.

We will continue to have a mini-test every two weeks, with the practice test sheet coming home the Wednesday before and the follow-up sheet coming home on the Wednesday after. The first practice test sheet will come home on Wednesday 8th May.

Topic

In our topic focus days we will be learning about Pilgrimage, and exploring the reasons behind pilgrimages. We will be exploring how pilgrimage plays a part in various world religions. After half-term, our topic will be World War 2, which I know lots of the children are already very much looking forward to.



The year 5 children will be supporting the Year 6s with singing in their leavers' performance towards the end of term; dates to be confirmed soon.

I am looking forward to another exciting, challenging and fulfilling term with your children; I can't believe how quickly the year is passing! Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have questions or concerns.

Mrs Whiffin.

