

September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to Class 5 from Miss Cooke! I hope you and your families are safe and well and that you are excited for the new school year! I look forward to meeting you all soon. This year we will be teaching our topics in more detail so they will be taught over a whole term rather than a new topic each half term. This will be broken down into different areas of the topic on a weekly or fortnightly basis. This term we will be discovering 'Africa' and the ancient civilisation of Benin. There will be a mixture of historical and geographical focuses during the term.

Snack

Please be aware that free fruit is not provided to children in KS2. Previously we offered a snack option to all children in KS2 where they could purchase a healthy snack from school. Due to the current climate we are unable to offer this, therefore if your child would like a snack at break time they are able to bring in fruit from home.

English

Pupils will be studying different elements of GPS (grammar, punctuation and spelling). This will help to raise the level of their writing. The children will be developing their comprehension skills of reading for information during guided reading. They also have access to a wide range of non-fiction books from our class reading corner for quiet reading and independent topic research. Children will develop their use of dictionaries and thesauruses to help extend their vocabulary.

English Fiction

Our key texts this half term are 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes which is an exciting story about a man who is made out of iron who mysteriously appears out of nowhere! We will be using this to write our own adventure story and imitating the style of Ted Hughes. We will also use this text to write a newspaper report about the events which unravel in the text.

Non-Fiction

Through our History and Geography work we will be learning about key aspects of the Benin civilisation and the importance of this period. We will also be finding out about life in Africa and different African countries. We will use this information to write a persuasive travel leaflet about visiting different African countries. Linked to our science unit we will write an explanation text about Forces and Magnets.

Learning Behaviours

Year 3 is an extremely important year for all children who will be required to maintain high standards of work and effort throughout. To encourage our children to continue developing the right attitude towards learning there are systems in place including rewards and sanctions. We always aim to focus on praising the positive behaviour demonstrated. Our dojo system is an effective method of promoting positive behaviour. We will continue to use the traffic light system to encourage 'green behaviour'. Children who display positive behaviour will remain on green. If inappropriate behaviour is shown, a warning is given. If the child does not make the right choice, their name will be moved to amber. Should the child immediately improve his/her behaviour and follow instructions given by an adult, their name is moved back up to green. Any more serious incidents will result in their name being moved straight to red. Any child who stays on green all week will result in a message sent to parents with the good news.

Mathematics

We have carefully considered the Maths curriculum in light of the school closures and have amended our long term plan to allow for extra time to cover missed units and to work on pupils' consolidation of mathematical concepts. This term will focus on the most important areas of Mathematics – number and place value and addition and subtraction. We will be exploring place value and will begin looking at 3 digit numbers. We will be reading and writing 3 digit numbers and comparing the value of numbers. We will also have an emphasis on the learning of times tables. It would be beneficial if you could spend some time with your child practising times tables facts. There are lots of good websites you can use at home to support your child's learning in this area including 'hit the button' which is a fun quick-fire multiplication game. I would recommend ensuring that your child is confident in recalling times tables facts for the 2x,5x and 10x tables before moving on to any other times tables as these are the ones that are focused on in Year 2,

History and Geography

These subjects are all tied into our topic. In History we will be exploring the significance of the Benin civilisation and using our geographical skills to locate Benin. We will also be researching and exploring the continent of Africa and comparing the culture and traditions of Africa with life in the UK.

Art and Design

Again linked to our topic, we will be developing our art and design skills. We will be analysing bronze plaques from Ancient Benin and then using these to design and make our own plaque using clay. We will also be exploring the work of Edward Tingatinga and using this artwork to create our own pieces using a similar impressionist style.

PSHE

PSHE will form a big part of our curriculum this half term as we welcome children into KS2. We will be discussing any worries that they may have about entering KS2. We will also continue to use Jigsaw; the topic for this half term is 'Being Me In My World'. We will discuss rules, rights and responsibilities. We will be exploring personal goals and challenges and how we can make appropriate choices, such as caring for other people's feelings.

Religious Education

To link with the PSHE Jigsaw programme, we will be following the 'Discovery R.E.' scheme. Each year group will study Christianity and another World Faith throughout the year. Year 3 will study Hinduism. This term our objective is to understand how celebrating Diwali at home and in the community can bring a feeling of belonging to a Hindu child.

Family Learning Session

Unfortunately due to the current situation and social distancing guidelines we won't be able to offer any family learning sessions, however we will be continually assessing the situation and we hope to invite you into school in the near future.

Visits

Due to the ongoing global pandemic and changing guidelines we will not be going on a class visit this half term, however it is my hope that we will be able to arrange a visit relating to our class topic soon.

Miss Cooke and Mrs Robinson

*** Reminders ***

PE kits

Our focus this half term is gymnastics. Children need to bring PE kits to school on Monday, in preparation for their lessons on [Wednesday](#) and [Thursday](#). We also ask that PE kits remain in school until Friday and that they are then taken home over the weekend. The correct PE kit of white t-shirt and black shorts is expected along with appropriate footwear. Please be aware that children wearing earrings, or other jewellery, will not be permitted to take part in PE. If your child has his, or her, ears pierced, please make sure earrings are removed for school or that tape/plasters are provided to cover the piercings during the PE lesson.

School times

To ensure the safety of our children and to ease congestion we will continue to operate staggered start and home times. The times for Class 5 are as follows:

8:50—the class teacher will come out onto the playground to collect Class 5.

3.05pm—the class teacher will escort the children out onto the playground where they will be collected.

Morning session: 8:45am-12:00pm

Afternoon session 1:00pm-3:05pm

We ask that you stick to these times and are prompt when dropping your child off in the morning and when collecting in the afternoon. This is to ensure we do not have too many people in the playground at once and that the entrances to school and the pedestrian walkways aren't blocked. Please wait in the allocated areas in the upper school playground. As I have been unable to meet most of you can you please ensure I am able to see you when you collect your child to ensure your child's safety.

Homework

Homework is given out to all children on a Friday and will need to be handed in by the following Wednesday. Creative homework linked to our topic will be set each half term (see separate menu). Spellings will also be given out on Friday for your child to learn ready for a dictation test on the following Thursday.

Please can your child also read at home at least three times a week and make sure they bring their reading record and reading book to school each day as they are checked on a daily basis.

School Contact Details

New Pastures Primary School
Upper School
Doncaster Road
Mexborough
South Yorkshire
S64 0LT

Tel:- (01709) 583271

Fax:- (01709) 578092

Headteacher: Mrs P. Belnavis
Deputy Head teacher: Mr T. Purdy
Class teacher: Miss K. Cooke
Tuesday pm: Mrs L. Hughes

If you need to have a word with your child's teacher please call the school office to arrange a telephone conversation for after school when they will be happy to discuss your questions or concerns.



**Class 5
Curriculum Newsletter**

Autumn Term One

**2021-2022
'Africa'**

