

April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all safe and well and that you enjoyed a well deserved Easter break and possibly an Easter egg or two!

This term we will be starting a new topic about coal mining in the local area. We will be finding out about why coal mining was so important in the locality and what life was like during this time.

#### Snack and water

I would like to remind you that free fruit is not provided to children in KS2 and due to the current climate we are unable to provide a healthy snack option to the children. If you would like your child to have a snack for breaktime, please send your child with a piece of fruit. Additionally, all children should bring a water bottle (filled with water only please) to school which should be kept in the classroom as we are unable to provide cups for drinks during the day. If your child has a packed lunch, this should be **additional** to the drink provided for lunchtime.

#### 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 focus this half term is contemporary fiction. We will be using a really exciting story called 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' by Phillip Pullman. This is the story of a girl called Lila who has to go on a very exciting and dangerous adventure. We will use this text to write our own narrative with an ordinary hero. We will be focusing on using inverted commas for speech within this narrative.

#### Non-Fiction

Through our Science unit we will be learning about the importance of Mary Anning and her contribution to the scientific field of fossils. We will research who she was and what she found out and use this to write a biography of her life.

#### Learning Behaviours

All children in our school are required to maintain high standards of work and effort throughout their time at New Pastures. 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

This term will begin our maths learning by learning about fractions. This builds upon the work we did last half term. We will also be exploring unit and non unit fractions and then finding fraction amounts of objects. We will also be exploring equivalent fractions. We will also be learning how to add and subtract fractions. We will then move onto our unit of work about 'time'. We will revisit concepts such as o'clock, quarter past and quarter to and then move onto telling the time to the nearest minute and comparing intervals of time. It would be really useful if you could discuss time with your child and recap using analogue clocks to read the time to o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to as time can be a difficult concept for children to grasp.

As you are aware multiplication and the learning of times tables is a key element of the Maths curriculum in Year 3. Each week your child undertakes a Soundcheck on TT Rockstars where we carefully monitor the times tables knowledge that they have. As the learning of times tables is so important we also have a big focus on this and we have a TT Rockstars competition each week. Therefore, we ask that each child accesses their TT Rockstars account at home so that they can full engage in this fun competition. Please let me know if your child has forgotten their log-in details and I can provide you with them.

#### Science

Children will be studying a topic called 'Rocks' which links to our text 'The Firework Maker's Daughter'. This unit of work looks at the different types of rocks (sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic), we will then be grouping the rocks based on their properties. We will then explore fossils which we will explore in the context of planetology. We will also be finding out about the significance of Mary Anning and her contribution to this field. We shall also investigate soils and how soil is made out of rocks and organic matter.

#### History and Geography

These subjects are all tied into our topic. We will be learning about where the coal mines were in the local area and why coal mining was so important.

#### Art and Design and Technology

Again linked to our topic, we will be exploring coal mining. We will be designing and making a suitable tool for coal mining. We will then evaluate if it would be fit for purpose.

In Art we will also be studying Claude Monet and how he used lots of plants and flowers in his artwork.

#### PSHE

In the current situation we are aware of the importance of physical, emotional and social health. Therefore PSHE will continue to form a big part of our curriculum. Our Jigsaw topic this half term is 'Relationships'.

#### 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 and our learning challenge is 'How can Brahman be everywhere and in everything?' We will be exploring how we are different things to different people and that these different aspects make us who we are. This will be linked to Hinduism and how Hindus believe that there is one God and how he is seen in many different forms. We will then use this learning to design our own God who embodies a key attribute such as kindness and friendship.

#### Visits

I am pleased to let you know that we will be going on a visit this half term to the National Coal Mining Museum in Wakefield on **Wednesday, 11 May**. I know the children will be really excited to finally go on a school visit! Information about this has already been sent out. Please ensure that your children has a suitable coat and footwear on this day. If you require any further information about this please contact the upper school office.

Miss Cooke and Mrs. Robinson

## \* Reminders \*

### PE kits

Our focus this half term is Outdoor and Adventurous. Children need to bring PE kits to school on Monday, in preparation for their lessons on [Tuesday](#) 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

Due to social distancing guidelines and to ensure the safety of all our pupils and staff in school we will be operating staggered start and end times to the school day. The times for Class 5 are as follows:

**8:45**—the class teacher will come out onto the playground to collect Class 5

**3pm**—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-3:00pm**

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.

### 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

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

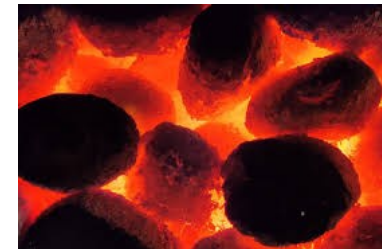


Class 5  
Curriculum Newsletter

## Summer Term One

## 2021-2022

## 'Coal Mining'



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.

