

June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a lovely spring bank holiday and you have been able to enjoy some Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

This term we will be continuing to study coal mining in the local area and how coal mining was important in the Industrial Revolution.

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.

Non-Fiction

Our focus this half term in Non-Fiction is persuasive writing. We will use non-fiction texts in the classroom, and the internet to research the closure of the coal mines. This will then be used to write a persuasive speech about the closure of the coal mines, using some counter arguments. We will also be writing a recount in the form of a newspaper about a day in the life of a coal miner.

English Fiction

Our key text this half term will be 'The Sheep Pig' by Dick King Smith. It also forms part of our author study as we started to read 'The Guard Dog' by the same author last half term. We will use The Sheep Pig to write our own contemporary piece of fiction with a twist based on this narrative.

We will also be writing a historical narrative about coal mining in the local area. This will be particularly interesting as it will contain a flashback!

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 we will be continuing our unit of work about 'time'. We will be 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. We will then be moving onto a unit of work about the properties of shape where we will be learning about angles in shapes, horizontal and vertical lines, and describing 2D and 3D shapes. Finally, we will be exploring measures. We will look at comparing, measuring and adding mass, measuring and comparing capacity and then look at reading temperatures. Measures is a very practical area of maths so any measuring you could do with your child at home (such as cooking and baking) would benefit them and help their understanding.

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.

Scientific and technological understanding

Children will be studying a topic about 'Light'. We will be exploring why light is important and how we need light to be able to see. We will also be learning that light is reflected from surfaces. We will also learn that different materials have different levels of reflectiveness and measure this using data-loggers. Children will also learn about mirrors and use these to play games. We will also find out about the importance of sun-safety by investigating the effectiveness of sunscreen on UV beads.

History and Geography

These subjects are all tied into our topic. Children will be looking at the geographical and historical importance of coal mining linked to the local area. We will find out about the different jobs in the coal mines, why children and animals were used in the coal mines and why the coal mining industry closed.

Art and Design

Linked to our topic we will be developing our skills in Art and Design by creating a picture of a coal mine.

Design and Technology

In our Design and Technology lessons we will be designing and making a miners lamp that miners would have to use whilst in the mines, in order for them to see and for their own safety.

PSHE

Our Jigsaw topic this half term is 'Changing Me'. We will be looking at how animals and humans change from birth to now and what babies need to live and grow. We will also explore family stereotypes and discuss what the children are looking forward to in Year 4.

Religious Education

Our learning challenge is 'Would visiting the River Ganges feel special to a non-Hindu?' We will be exploring how water is important in our everyday lives for drinking, cleaning and cooking. This will be linked to Hinduism and how the River Ganges is particularly important to Hindus as many Hindus make a pilgrimage to the river every year. We will then use this learning to discuss why non-Hindus may want to visit the river and use this to design two postcards from Varanasi.

* Reminders *

PE kits

Our focus this half term is Athletics. Children need to bring PE kits to school on Monday, in preparation for their lessons on [Monday](#) 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. As the focus for this half term is outdoors based, we ask that your child has an appropriate outdoor PE kit, including correct footwear.

School times

To ensure the safety of all our pupils and staff in school we will continue to operate 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: 8:50am-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.

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.

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.

Spellings will be given out on a Friday for your child to learn ready for a test the following Thursday.

School Contact Details

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Deputy Head teacher: Mr T. Purdy

Class teacher: Miss K. Cooke

Tuesday am: Mrs L. Hughes



Class 5
Curriculum Newsletter

Summer Term Two
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.

