

**Year 5 – Autumn 1 Newsletter**

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Year 5! We have a very exciting year ahead, that will be both challenging and fun.

Having taught at least one older sibling of many children in class, (sometimes even two), I know a lot of you are already aware of my passion and determination to ensure that your child succeeds.

As our school continues to develop, there will be many new activities and opportunities for your child to take part in. I would strongly encourage you to support them in making the most of what will be available – as it adds to their enjoyment of school and helps to develop the whole child rather than just the academic side.

This first half term’s focus is Geography, where we will investigate ‘Changes to our Local Environment’. With that in mind, our English lessons will be based around two books: ‘The Promise’, and an inspirational true story called ‘One Plastic Bag’. We will also be conducting some field work (out of school grounds), so if there are any parents/careers available to come along and support this - it would be very much appreciated.

Maths will be mainly focusing in place value - knowing the values of each digit in a number, along with revisiting addition and subtraction.

In Science, we are learning about our solar system, the orbits of the planets and our moon.

In PE we are swimming. Starting Monday 12th Sept and continuing until Christmas. This will give all children the time to really gain water confidence and make lots of progress with their swimming.

Hopefully, many of you have seen the Class Dojo message from me about that already. Please ensure your child wears either shorts/trunks (no pockets) for boys, or a one-piece costume for girls.  Long hair needs to be tied up, and jewellery cannot be worn in the pool. Swimming hats and goggles are optional – but to wear goggles I need your written permission first.  Children also need a towel, and a bag for their wet things.

Class Dojo - I will resend joining information as I aim to use it for group/ individual messages. I am normally available at the start/end of the day, but sometimes it’s easier to send a quick message on Dojo. It also means that you can message me as you think about it, rather than wait until the next morning/ end of the day.

Looking elsewhere in our curriculum:

- DT we will be learning how to successfully make pop-up books.
- Computing is all about e-safety.
- Personal Development (PD previously PSHE) investigates right and responsibilities.
- RE - our focus is on Sikhism and worship.

Finally, I want to stress the importance of regular reading at home. Outside of school, this one thing has a greater impact on progress than any other activity.

Best Wishes

Carl Bown

Year 5 Teacher