

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to the Spring Term. This letter is to tell you about the regular class activities, expectations and work that is planned for this term.

The children are expected to organise themselves for their work and to have all the equipment (including a glue stick) they need for their lessons. A visual timetable is displayed on the classroom wall for the children to see.

P.E. is on Monday with children coming into school in their kit. Our second P.E. slot will continue to be on Thursday afternoon. Please note P.E. often takes place outdoors, therefore, children should have a pair of old tracksuit bottoms available, as well as P.E. socks.

Children may bring in a bottle of water (with a 'sports top' please) which they may use throughout the day.

Reading regularly with your child will help them to improve immensely. You can support their understanding by listening to them read a variety of genres and asking them questions to aid comprehension. Your child should read for approximately 20 minutes each evening. This can be independent or shared reading. Reading records should be filled in at least five times a week and brought in weekly on **Thursdays**. Children must read their colour-coded book each week (this should be in school every day) and in addition, may also read other books of their choice, all of which should be recorded in the record book.

As we are currently studying the work of **Anthony Horowitz**, we would like to encourage all children in Year 5 to read books by this author. His books include the "Diamond Brother's" stories and "Groosham Grange" amongst others.

<u>Homework</u> will be sent out on a **Thursday** and is due in on the following **Tuesday**. Children will be given English and Maths and spelling homework. Every half-term your child will receive one Brain Builder homework. Brain Builders are creative/research type tasks which encourage children to think in different ways. We expect the children to display their work in an imaginative and creative way. Although we encourage the use of the Internet for research, we do not want to see work merely *copied and pasted* from websites.

How You Can Help Your Child At Home.

Please monitor what your child reads and support the completion of their homework. Presentation of homework should always be of a high standard. Please encourage your child to take care over their presentation.

Help your child to learn and practise their times tables and test them frequently.

Encourage your child to research topics of interest in books or on the computer.

Encourage the use of educational programs on the computer including Espresso using the free school login. Put 'Espresso login' into your internet browser and key in:

Username: student6119 lower case, no spaces Password: Robertswood capital letter needed The work we are covering this term includes:

<u>English</u>

We will be developing reading and writing skills based around the following:

- "Stormbreaker" by Anthony Horowitz
- Cross-curricular work following our trip to the Isle of Wight after February half-term.

<u>Maths</u>

We will be focusing on multiplication, division, fractions, decimals, percentages, area and perimeter. Alongside this, we will be continuing with the 99 Club weekly times tables challenge.

Science

Living things and their Habitats

We will learn about the life cycles of flowering plants, asexually reproducing plants (such as potatoes and strawberries), birds, insects, some mammals plus the contribution of famous naturalists.

Computing

We will be learning more about **Spreadsheets**, and extending the children's awareness and understanding of **Cloud computing**.

<u>P.E.</u>

This term our P.E. units are Gymnastics, Netball, Football and Dance.

Geography

The children will learn about Alaska and local geography linked to our Isle of Wight trip.

<u>Art</u>

In Art we will be painting and exploring collage. Children will:

- Develop control of painting and collage tools and techniques.
- Blend and match colours using acrylics.
- Investigate visual and tactile materials.

DT

The children will be working on a structural project relating to bridges.

<u>PSHE</u>

We will be covering the units Rules, Rights and Responsibilities and Looking After Ourselves.

<u>R.E</u>

The children will consider **Places of Worship** and **Faith Leaders**.

French

In French the children will learn about Family and Friends as well as Food and Drink.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Please do not hesitate to arrange an appointment to see us and discuss any concerns you may have about your child or their school work.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Turner and Mr Lower