

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely, restful Christmas break, which was very well deserved after a busy and productive Autumn term. May we take this opportunity, on behalf of the whole Year 5 team, to thank you all for the beautiful cards, generous gifts and lovely well wishes over the festive period. We are looking forward to another action packed half term.

Routines: PE days are still Thursday and Friday, with swimming continuing on Thursdays until February Half Term. Children should come to school dressed appropriately for outdoor P.E on Fridays. Children can change their reading book on any day during the week following their accelerated reading book quiz. Homework, along with spellings, will be handed out on Mondays and is expected to be completed by the following Monday.



Creative Curriculum: We will be starting our new topic '**How Golden was the Golden Age of the Islamic Civilisation?**' We will be exploring ancient Islamic civilisation, creating our own artwork and making cross curricular links.

D.T: This term we will be undertaking a design technology project, linked to circuits that incorporate buzzers. Our final outcome will be to design and make an alarm to protect a valuable artefact.

English: Our new English topic is based around the text '**The Golden Horsemen of Baghdad**' by Saviour Pirotta. We will explore the purpose and audience of the text and use our Shakespeare rehearsal and drama techniques to delve deeper into the text. We will look at how prepositional phrases can enhance our writing and learn how to use modal verbs to suggest degrees of possibility. We will then focus on developing and integrating speech to advance the action. The children will collate these skills to write their version of the next chapter of the story.



Maths: This term, we will begin with multiplication and division, working on formal written methods for both before moving on to fractions. Children will develop understanding of equivalent fractions, improper fractions and mixed numbers as well as being able to convert between the two. We will move on to comparing and ordering fractions, calculations involving fractions and finding fractions of quantities.

Science: In Science, we will be looking at the properties and changes of materials. We will compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties. We will know that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution, and be able to describe how to recover a substance from a solution. We will also use our knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated.

R.E.: In our R.E lessons we will be thinking about '**What does it mean for Muslims to follow God?**' We will be able to explain Muslim beliefs about God and understand, with depth and nuance, the many beliefs and rituals Muslims follow within their religion. We will develop an appreciation and curiosity for religions other than our own and be able to ask thoughtful and comprehensive questions.

PE: As already stated, swimming lessons will continue until February Half term. The children will also begin their Health Related Fitness topic, learning about how to become and remain fit whilst also completing a number of fitness tests.

PSHE: This half term, we will be looking at the question: 'How can we help in an accident or emergency?' As part of this topic we will learn basic first aid and how to keep calm in an emergency.

French: This term we will continue with our topic 'Au Restaurant', focusing on learning key vocabulary linked to ordering food and drink, as well as ice-creams.

Computing: The children will start a unit of work linked to data and information, with a focus on flat file databases - This unit looks at how a flat-file database can be used to organise data in records. Children use tools within a database to order and answer questions about data. They create graphs and charts from their data to help solve problems. They use a real-life database to answer a question, and present their work to others.

Music: In music the children will be studying 'Samba' with a focus on cyclic patterns and polyrhythms. They will perform as a class samba band, composing samba pieces in groups. This topic will continue for the whole Spring Term.

Thank you for all the positive feedback. If you have any issues or questions please feel free to contact us, either in person in the playground or by contacting the office. We look forward to having another great half term.

Miss Firth & Mr Newby