



St Edmund's RC Primary School

SPRING TERM 2020 Year 5 Class Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a peaceful and happy Christmas break and are looking forward to the term ahead. Thank you so much for the lovely cards and thoughtful gifts from the children, we really appreciate your kindness. We are delighted that Mrs. Attridge is back at school and teaching Year 5 on Thursdays and Fridays.

Curriculum

We have a busy term ahead. We will begin with a Science focus exploring Space and the Solar System. Science Oxford are visiting with their Space Dome on January 20th and we will visit Rutherford Lab for a Space Explorers Day on February 7th. More details of both events will follow nearer the date. We will be learning about the different planets and using practical experiments to understand how the Solar System works. Later in the term, we will be learning about forces. The children will be creating parachutes and boats to investigate resistance and buoyancy and launching rockets amongst other forces.

We will then move on to a Geography focus looking at the Polar Regions. We will be exploring the geography of the Polar Regions and using maps and atlases to broaden the children's awareness of the different aspects of our planet.

In Maths, the children will continue to learn mental and written calculation methods. They will apply these methods to mental arithmetic. They will also continue to consolidate their understanding of place value and decimals, data and fractions. Reasoning and problem solving are a continuing focus in Maths, enabling the children to develop a deeper understanding of Maths as a relevant and powerful tool which can be used in a variety of settings. The children will continue to develop their mathematical skills through regular investigations.

This term an Art teacher from Abingdon school will be working with the class every other Tuesday afternoon on a plastic recycling project, making birds and flower sculptures that will be displayed outside in the trees on the school field by the outdoor classroom. This will link with our work on Climate Change/ Polar Regions in the Spring Term.

Please can we ask students to start collecting any of the following to bring into school as soon as possible:

- Recycled plastic bottles and bottle tops

- Plastic spoons and forks
- Plastic, coloured transparent sweet wrappers like the ones you get with Quality Street
- Ribbon
- Gift wrapping ribbons/ties
- Anything else they think might be useful but not paper based as they are to go outside

Many thanks for your support and we look forward to being able to show you the results!

Homework

Thank you for your support with homework. We are pleased to see the commitment the children have shown in doing their homework each week and have been impressed with their practical creations as well! We will continue to set Maths and English/Topic homework each week alongside regular spellings and reading challenges. Homework will continue to be given out on Fridays and will be expected back in the following Wednesday.

One of the most powerful ways you can help your child is by helping them develop a love of reading. This may be through them seeing you read and enjoy books, through them reading to you or you to them, or discussing different things you have read together. Reading regularly will help your child with every subject. Children who read regularly at school and at home make the most progress so thank you so much for your support in this area. Please continue to encourage your child to read every day.

We have been impressed with the Times Tables Rock Stars performances in Year 5 and would encourage the children to keep practising their tables regularly. This will help them enormously with their Maths work in Upper Key Stage 2 and beyond.

School Uniform and PE kit

PE will continue to be on a Thursday afternoon with our PE coach. Our Daily Mile track is now ready for use so please make sure your child has their kit and most importantly their trainers in school each day.

As always, if you have any queries, or if you wish to talk to us, we are usually available after school. If you would prefer to arrange a meeting with us to discuss anything at length, then please let us know or contact the school office.

With best wishes for a healthy and happy 2020,

Mrs. Graham and Mrs. Attridge