



Dear Parents,

We have enjoyed a smooth transition into Year 5 and the children are already into the patterns of Hurricane Class. I wanted to give some information about the running of the class as well as an idea of the topic that the children will encounter in the next 10 months.

Home learning this year will focus on honing the key skills. Maths will usually consist of a times tables or mental arithmetic activity. These should be completed quickly and accurately as we work to develop quick recall and mental agility. English will be spelling activities. There will be a mixture of key words, frequently misspelled words and year 5 spelling pattern words. With both mental maths and spellings, the more frequently they are practised, the more easily the children will apply them in lessons. We continue to focus on developing the children's love of reading and you may have heard that Hurricane Class have been given the role of Charter's Reading Champions as the library takes shape. There are incentives in class for completing home learning and for reading aloud to an adult a minimum of five times a week.

As in previous years, we aim to do PE lessons twice a week. While we try to keep to regular times slots, as the weather becomes more unpredictable we may move PE around in the week to try to squeeze in sessions between the weather. As such, please ensure that PE kits are in school every day. We also take our learning outside regularly so sensible shoes and a warm and waterproof coat are essential to have in school every day.

We have a huge curriculum to cover in Year 5, and we try to do so in an fun and interactive way. Our history will focus on Chippenham and the children will learn how and why the town came to be. We will learn about King Alfred and be asking, 'Was he really so great?' Fortunately, we have some help at hand as Mr Skelton will be emerging from the museum and visiting school in Term 1. We will be going on local walks and visiting sites of interest as we learn about Chippenham's history.

The rest of our curriculum has a more international feel as later in the year we will learn about the great rivers of the world. Our learning will take us to Brazil, Mexico and Rome as we learn about great artists and architects. We will look at how art has been used in social history as we learn about the Underground Railroad in the southern states of America, and will hopefully visit the American Museum in Bath in the summer term.

If you have any questions please come into class for a chat.

Miss Coverley

