

11th September 2020

Dear Parents

Welcome to Year 5! We would like to begin by letting you know that despite the very 'different' start to the Autumn Term, we have been delighted that the children have settled so quickly and have been busy tackling many challenges in their classes from team building and well-being tasks to starting our new and exciting topics. Overleaf you will find an overview of the jam-packed term ahead which we hope the children are looking forward to as much as we are!

Communication is extremely important to us in order to ensure a happy and successful year. As such, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's class teacher if you have any queries or concerns. Unfortunately, due to current restrictions face to face contact is challenging, however, we are always available for a conversation over the telephone or via email. Also, remember to check www.westfields-jun.hants.sch.uk for the most recent school information, newsletters, dates of events and much more.

What your child needs for Year 5...As the children move through the school, it is increasingly important for them to become more independent in being ready for their learning and coming to school prepared with all the things they need. This includes a named and complete PE kit which should be in school daily as although we have set days for PE, for various reasons (including bad weather!) these may have to change so we ask that the children always have their kit in school so they do not miss out on this statutory part of the curriculum.

The children will also need a pencil case with writing pencils, colouring pencils, sharpener, rubber, and ideally, your child should also have a highlighter, a whiteboard pen and a glue stick. Each Monday they will also need to bring their spelling booklet and reading record completed for the week to be checked. We ask that you make sure all items that come into school are clearly named.

Home Learning provides an essential part of children's learning, as well as a really important link between home and school. This year home learning will be accessed via MyMaths and Class Dojo (please see the letter from Mrs Wilson for full details). If you have any concerns regarding the children's weekly tasks, please contact us as soon as possible in order that we can address these and support you in supporting your child to gain the best from their learning and make best progress.

➤ **Reading**

All children will be expected to read regularly at home (including reading to an adult) to ensure that they become skilled, efficient and interested readers who are able to access learning and information presented in a range of forms, as well as enjoy reading for pleasure. We hope that all children in Year 5 will record their home reading in their reading record books at least 5 times a week and we would be grateful if you could sign the entries that your child has made and also write a comment about reading at home.

➤ **Spelling**

The children will be given weekly spellings on a Tuesday (and tested the following Monday) to learn from the National Curriculum expectations for our year group, which will usually follow a particular rule or pattern. The rule or pattern will be taught in school so that children understand how it works and after learning examples, we hope they will subsequently be able to apply it to a variety of words.

➤ **Maths**

As in previous years, MyMaths tasks will be given weekly. During this year we hope these tasks will support the children in building firm foundations of mathematical skills and having key number facts at their fingertips as instant recall are crucial to children's success in being successful mathematicians. It is now expected that all children should possess rapid recall of their times table facts by the end of Year 4 (although our current cohort missed this due to Covid19) and so it is essential for our pupils to master these skills; regular practice on TT Rockstars as well as other means will certainly support their recall of times tables and skills. There are many games and activities to complete on MyMaths and there is a list of suggested websites under the 'Parent' section of our website. But if you need any guidance, please do not hesitate to ask!

We are all looking forward to a brilliant year!

Kind regards,



Mr D Chaplin
Year 5 Team Leader
and Class Teacher



Mr J Frame
Class Teacher



Miss D Taylor
Class Teacher