

Year 5: Spring Term 2016

Key dates for the diary

- Wednesday 17th January – 5K Class Assembly
- Friday 26th January – The Invaders Immersion Day
- Wednesday 31st January – Trip to the Royal Observatory in Greenwich
- **Half term: 12th February – 16th February**
- Week beginning 26th Feb - Book week
- Friday 23rd March – Parent Conference Day (no school for children)
- **Last day of term – March 29th (2pm finish)**

Happy New Year! We all hope that you had a wonderful time celebrating the festive season, and your child is raring to go for 2018 and the Year of the Dog. We have a fantastic term ahead of us, and we just wanted to share the exciting learning your child has to look forward to!

Rather excitingly, this term we are launching a new growth mind-set initiative at Heber Primary School. With a growth mind-set, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication, hard work and a positive attitude to challenge. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishments. At Heber we wish for all our children to have a growth mind-set. We have already started to explore the power of 'Yet'. Rather than a child saying "I can't do this," they'll be encouraged to say "I can't do this, yet", giving them the mind-set that with hard work and extra effort, achievement will follow.

English

For the first half term, our work in English will be based around the text 'The Adventures of Odysseus'. The children will focus on elements of narrative such as description and dramatic writing. They will also work on empathy and understanding of character. Speaking and listening skills will be developed through debating themes within the text.

After half term, the children will explore the themes and story of 'The Princess' Blankets' and use it to eventually create their own modern fairy tale. They will also have the opportunity to write in role; writing purposeful diary entries, letters and speeches.

The weekly spelling lesson will continue, focusing on spelling rules. Children will be expected to learn a list of words at home on a weekly basis.

Grammar is integrated into the daily English lesson. Areas that we will cover this term are: brackets, dashes and commas to indicate parenthesis, indicating degrees of possibility using adverbs and modal verbs and verb prefixes.

Maths

This term in Maths children will study Measure (Perimeter and Area), Number (Multiplication and Division), Number (Fractions) and Number (Decimals and Percentages.) We will be continuing with the concrete, pictorial and abstract approach that was introduced to Heber Primary this academic year.

Science

Spring 1: Earth and Space

In science this term, the children will learn to describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system. They will also describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth and use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the Sun across the sky.

Spring 2: Forces

Pupils will explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object. They will identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction that act between moving surfaces.

Topic (History): The Invaders

During this topic, we will study the period in British history between the Romans leaving in the 5th Century and the Norman Invasion of 1066. This period is often referred to as the 'Dark Ages' since there is so little written evidence left behind. It was a period defined by a series of invaders, the Scots and Picts, the Angles, Saxons and Jutes, and finally the Vikings. Children will learn about the key events from this period, and learn how to place them on a timeline. Children will consider the theme of migration and discover more about these different invaders, where they came from and the reasons for their migration to the British Isles. Children will also gain an

insight their arts and culture, religion, laws and justice. We will also examine key events and prominent figures during this period including the conversion to Christianity, Viking raids, Alfred the Great and Edward the Confessor.

On our immersion day, the children will actively participate in a Viking roleplay set in Haithabu, Denmark, around 876 AD. They will learn about aspects of life in Haithabu such as finding and preparing food, making essential tools and clothing, building a ship and holding a festival. They will then play some Anglo-Saxon and Viking themed games such as Nine Man Morris, and Fox and Goose. We will also in classes be making a full sized Anglo Saxon and Viking Warrior, along with armour, helmet, brooch and weapon!

Computing

Starting this term, we are changing the way that Computing is taught. We will take a topic based approach to teach the three aspects of the subject in fun and exciting new ways. In Spring 1, the children will create a website explaining online safety and responsible online behaviour. In Spring 2, the children will use vector and turtle graphics to explore geometric art, taking inspiration from the work of Escher, Riley and traditional Islamic artists, as well as experimenting with complex fractal landscapes.

P.E

The focus will be on the personal and physical skills necessary to progress in sport. The children will have opportunities to create new games, such as Wall-ball, and develop rules for these games. There will be an emphasis on team games – particularly invasion sports such as basketball and netball. There will be team building games involving climbing challenges in the middle hall.

P.S.H.E

Rather excitingly, this term we are launching a new growth mind-set initiative at Heber Primary school. In a growth mind-set, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work—brains and talent are just the starting point. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment. At Heber we wish for all our children to have a growth mind-set. We will be doing this through exploring the power of 'Yet'. Rather than a child saying "I can't do this," they'll be encouraged to say "I can't do this, yet", giving them the mind-set that with hard work they will eventually be able to do that skill. This ties in nicely to our PSHE topic for the Spring term, 'Going for goals.' Each child will be asked to write down a goal for the year, framed as something they can't do 'yet'.

R.E.

Children will be learning about the Jewish faith. Children will be learning about the context of the Passover festival, the story attached to it, how it is celebrated and its inner meaning of freedom. From there we will explore what freedom means, locally, nationally, and internationally.

Music

The Year 5 lessons will be centred on 'Don't Stop Believing' among other songs (including some songs by Led Zeppelin to tie in with our Invaders topic!) We will explore rock and its' features using this example song and others, and apply our learned skills of using tuned and untuned percussion instruments to accompany. We will also aim to compose our own "solos" as appropriate, learning not only how they are created but also how to transfer these skills to other songs or situations.

Art

Landscapes and Trees: We will improve drawing skills by studying primary and secondary sources of trees and leaves. We will improve evaluation skills by comparing and contrasting landscapes in different media and styles. We will investigate and evaluate the works of the artist John Constable.

General Routines

- 5S have outdoor PE every Wednesday and indoor PE every Thursday.
- 5K have outdoor PE every Thursday and indoor P.E. every Wednesday.

Indoor PE:

The P.E. kit for indoor P.E is plain blue, black or white shorts, a plain white T shirt and bare feet.

Outdoor PE:

For outdoor P.E, children will need to bring a plain white T-shirt, plain blue, black or white tracksuit bottoms and trainers or plimsolls.

Home Learning:

- Spelling lists will go home weekly. Children will be tested on those words the following week. They should also practice their spellings using Spellodrome.
- Mathletics, TT Rockstars and MyMaths should be used at least once a week. Children should be choosing topics on Mathletics and MyMaths that link to the Maths covered in class that week.
- Reading every day is expected. Children will have reading records to keep updated at least twice a week.

Helpful hints on how you can help your child at home:

Ensure that your child reads every night and listen to them occasionally.

Talk to your child about their day at school.

Help your child with their weekly spelling list. The transfer of these skills is very important.

Help your children to learn the times tables and related division facts for each times table up to 12 x 12.

Support your child in learning how to tell the time on analogue and digital clocks to the nearest minute.

If you have any concerns that you need to discuss please contact the office to make an appointment with your child's class teacher.

We are happy for you to take Maths and English books home to look at over the weekend; however, we will require them on Monday morning.

Thank you in advance for your continued support this academic year.

The Year 5 Team