

# Year 5 Autumn newsletter

It has been a fun start to Year 5 and we have been very impressed so far. They have settled in well and demonstrated resilience throughout the autumn term. All of the children have worked incredibly hard during this first term and are fully deserving of their break over Christmas and New Year. There have been many highlights throughout the first term including visiting the Black Country Living Museum, where the children got to experience life as a Victorian child. This really inspired the children's work in Literacy and Topic, their imaginations were bursting with ideas for writing. We have also taken part in a sports festival at Hampton college to compete in a Netball and Basketball tournament against other local schools. We were highly successful and we ended up taking home the trophy!



## Maths



Our maths lessons this term have involved practising our calculation skills, using written methods and a range of different approaches to enhance speed and accuracy. It has been great to see the children starting to make links, finding the most appropriate method to solve tricky questions and applying methods to reasoning problems. Furthermore, we have put a lot of focus on times tables this term and the children have worked hard on these.

The children appear to have thoroughly enjoyed the books we have been studying this term, 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty and 'Tom's Midnight Garden' by Philippa Pearce. The books are based around the Victorian Era and have allowed the children to broaden their understanding of this time period. During lessons, we have applied our writing skills in a variety of different genres, these include letter writing, instructions, diary entries and narratives. In addition to this, we have focussed on our skills in grammar, punctuation and spelling with sessions to ensure children feel confident in applying this to their writing. We also continue to work hard on our reading skills, looking closely at comprehension and inference skills.

## Literacy



## Science



So far during this autumn term we have been learning all about Materials and how they can have different properties, which means they can be used for a variety of different purposes. The investigations we conducted included looking at dissolving and evaporation, reversible and irreversible changes and conductors and insulators. We have worked hard and got to grips on the different enquiry types, thinking about how we can investigate different concepts.

# Topic and other subjects

Topic has been packed full of exciting lessons this term. During the first half term, we focused on our History learning on Victorians. The children can now describe what life was like during that era, explain what it is famous for and how the inventions have impacted modern life. During the second half term, we completed a UK Study of Peterborough. The children enhanced their map reading skills and are now familiar with 4 and 6-figure grid references, this proved particularly useful when completing a walk around our local area. Furthermore, they can use an 8-point compass to pinpoint locations on an OS map.



Our Art lessons began with a Victorian theme. We explored the style and techniques of William Morris - one of the most creative artists Britain has ever produced. Using his creations as a stimulus, Year 5 drafted and created their own nature-inspired patterns. The children's work then progressed on to printing their patterns in a repeated-style manner using polystyrene blocks. After printing, they evaluated their artwork to identify what went well and what they could improve for next time.



At the beginning of Year 5, we looked at the importance of e-safety and identified strategies to keep themselves and others safe online. We then moved on to looking at Computer Systems and Networks. This focused on the sharing of information and ways of working collaboratively online. During the second half term, the children studied video production, looking at different camera angles and how they would apply these to their own video.



## And finally...



As we head towards the Christmas holidays, we would like to thank the children for all their hard work and resilience throughout the autumn term. We are looking forward to seeing this hard work continue through to the spring term and the rest of the year. Finally, we would like to wish all our pupils and their families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

# Miss Ashton Jones, Mrs Carter and Miss Mohan