

## Welcome to Class 5 : Spring 2017

Happy New Year! We hope you have had a restful Christmas break and are ready for an exciting and hardworking spring term. Thank you so much for the lovely Christmas cards and gifts. Mrs Patch and I were both touched by your kindness and have been enjoying sampling all the local specialist food in the hampers. Although back for just over a week, your children have already made a great start and we are really looking forward to the term ahead. As a teacher, the spring term is my favourite as it is when some children really come on in leaps and bounds in their learning.

### Curriculum at a glance

Ancient Greece-please do send in any books/information you have related to this topic.



<b>Literacy</b>	Fiction writing based around the short animated film, <i>The Piano</i> Two spelling sessions a week Two guided reading sessions <i>Grammar focus-use of relative clauses, commas and modal verbs.</i>
<b>Mathematics</b>	Percentages Written long multiplication method Applying knowledge to word problems and missing number questions Times tables will be tested regularly with Mrs Clegg on Thursdays
<b>Science</b>	Animal life cycles
<b>RE</b>	Pilgrimage
<b>ICT</b>	Spreadsheets, PowerPoint
<b>French</b>	Shopping
<b>Music</b>	Musical elements; pentatonic scales
<b>Art</b>	Portraiture
<b>PE</b>	Hockey, tennis, gym

### Creating independent and resilient learners

Every two weeks we will have a different whole school focus. The first one is "Three before me" (board/book, buddy and boss). This means we will be encouraging children to check the board/working walls/their book and ask a partner (buddy) before asking the teacher (boss). In order to protect office staff time and to develop children's independence and resilience, the school will not be contacting parents this term about forgotten kit or equipment. If forgotten kit is delivered during the morning, it should be left in the Howe Lobby drop box and will be your child's responsibility to check and collect.

### Celebrating achievements

We always enjoy hearing about children's achievements outside school. Please record any extra-curricular achievements in your child's homework diary. As always, I look forward to celebrating talents and awarding certificates in assembly on Tuesdays. We will also be celebrating house points each week on Tuesdays (pouring the tokens into the jars) so please encourage your child to gain as many as possible.

## Homework Timetable

Subject	Day set	Day due in	Time
Literacy	Tues	Mon	35 mins
Maths	Tues	Mon	35 mins Keep revising times tables. By now, your child is expected to know <b>all the times tables up to 12 x 12</b> . The government is still considering setting a times tables test at end of KS2 in 2018 (the year your children will be taking SATs). We will test times tables regularly and send home copies of the tests for you to view.
Spelling	Mon	Mon	<b>Practise 3x each week</b> (15 mins each time). Session 1= writing the words in a sentence. Choice of learning methods for sessions 2 and 3. This can include Spelloidrome activities. Please make it clear in the spelling book what your child has done for each session. There is a weekly test with house points awarded for correct spellings.
Reading	Mon	Mon	Read aloud 3x each week

***We will continue to use some of the Mathletics, Spelloidrome and Reading Eggspress programmes as part of homework this term. Do encourage your child to explore the sites as well as using them for homework. Remember that the more they use the sites, the more they learn and the more points/eggs they collect for their avatar.***

### How you can best support your child:

- Hear your child read and discuss their reading with them.
- Keep testing your child on their times tables and spellings.
- Remind your child to have their targets in front of them when completing written homework.
- Help your child think of some ideas to write about and jot down some notes.
- Encourage them to proofread their writing (often easier if spoken out loud) to correct any errors and make improvements.
- Make sure your child realises that remembering kit, homework and equipment is his/her responsibility, not yours!

### Key dates:

Week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> January: reading, grammar and maths tests. Please try and avoid absences during this week.

7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> March Parents' Evenings

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or concerns. You are very welcome to come and see me on the playground before/after school or jot down a note in the homework diary. Thank you for all your support. Mrs Patch, Mrs Clegg and I look forward to working in partnership with you again this term.  
Mrs Payne (Class 5 Classteacher and Deputy Headteacher)