



# Marchwood Junior School

Our Learning Family that Inspires you to Dream

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## Spring 2: Year 5 Newsletter



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Welcome to the Spring 2 year 5 newsletter. In this newsletter, we have shared with you what your child will be learning in maths and English and included some ideas to support your child at home. We have also shared with you about your child's curriculum topic and the exciting learning tasks they will be completing.

### Diary dates for this half term:

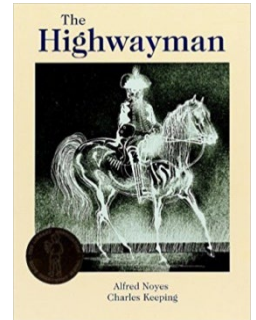
Tuesday 20th	Y5 Question of Faith day
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET Day
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Forum – Homework and Home-School agreement (4pm)
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Author Webinar
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	PTFA Mother's Day shop
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Cuppa and Chat morning
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day (Non-school uniform)
w/b 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Assessment week
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Reading Aloud Final
Tues 26 <sup>th</sup> + Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents Evening
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	PTFA Easter Egg Hunt
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Last day of term

Look out for weekly newsletters and other separate letters for details about the above.

# English

## Writing

In English, we will be studying a narrative poem called 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes; this is a dramatic tale all about a highway thief, set in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, who travels by night and meets a young maiden called Bess. We will use this thrilling, yet tragic, tale to inspire an exciting piece of writing and use some of the figurative language that can be found in the poem too.



Lastly, we will move onto focusing on the biographies of Arunima Sinha and Jonny Peacock who have shown determination even though they are disabled.

## Reading

This half term we will be reading extracts of 'Boy in the Tower' by Polly Ho-Yen'. As always, please encourage your children to read a wide range of books and to record *daily* reads in their Reading Star Journals. Remember to fill in the section which shows what they are currently reading too. The children worked really hard last half term to earn lots of stars in their Reading Star Journals, so please encourage your children to continue completing activities and to read as much as possibly at home; it really does benefit them to read as often as possible.



## Spelling

This term we continue to learn and practise words from the year 5 and 6 spelling list as well as learning new rules and patterns. Spelling sentences are a really important part of your child's homework and we suggest they learn them by writing them out many times so they know them word perfectly. How well your child does in their spelling dictation test on a Monday will be indicated in their study log.

The spelling rules that we will cover are as follows:

Week 1 – anti and inter

Week 2 – suffix ence and ance

Week 3 – ible and able

Week 4 – suffix –fer and ence

Week 5 – I before e except after c

Week 6 – silent letters



## Spelling Shed

To support your children as much as possible in practising the spelling rules they have learnt, please encourage them to use the Spelling Shed website as much as possible. They have been provided with their log ins for this website and have been shown how to navigate around it and access the games in school. It is a fun, interactive way for the children to practise spelling list words from previous years as well as their current word list words.

## Vocabulary

The key words for this half term are: Marchwood, community, future, environment, council, responsibility, anti-social behaviour, individuals, effects, impact. Please take some time discussing these words with your child and help them to develop their understanding of what they mean.

## Mathematics

Below are the key objectives in maths for this half term:

- Adding and subtracting fractions
- Recognise mixed numbers and improper fractions
- Multiply fractions and solving problems involving fractions
- Read and write decimal numbers as fractions and recognising equivalents
- Take measurements, convert units of measure and compare
- Measuring and calculating the perimeter of rectilinear shapes in centimetres and metres
- Investigating the relationship between perimeter and area to find unknown lengths of shapes
- Calculating and comparing the area of rectangles, and estimating the area of irregular shapes
- Estimating volume and capacity



At each stage of learning, the children will be exposed to a range of problems and reasoning activities to help them develop their reasoning skills.

There are some new aspects of maths learning in the spring term for the children, so we are excited to see how they get on. We will continue to develop the children's mental strategies and written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division in weekly arithmetic sessions alongside daily maths meetings to revisit all the topics we have looked at so far to ensure that all the skills and concepts they have learnt are kept in the children's minds.

### What can you do at home to help?

Regularly practise times tables. This can be done either by chanting them, quick fire questions and having some fun using apps. Knowing them will mean children can instantly recall facts in a random order. Don't forget to learn the inverse too (division facts!!). Times Tables Rockstars is a big hit with the children. Each child has their own log in details stuck in the front of their study log. If your child has any problems logging on or accessing Times Tables Rockstars, please inform your child's class teacher.



IN the near future, we will be revisiting how to tell the time, so getting children to take note of what time they get up, what time they get home from school, when they have dinner, what time they go to bed, will help the children's understanding of time. If you have both analogue and digital clocks at home, this will be great practise for the children when it comes to looking at this aspect of mathematics again in school.

Maths homework is set every Monday and is due the following week.

# The Future of Marchwood

This half term, the children will be taking part in a PSHE-based topic all about the community, called “The Future of Marchwood”. They will be investigating how they can make a contribution to Marchwood and how they can make it a better place to live. To do this, they will be thinking about what they already know about our local community and what they can do to help. We will be welcoming different visitors to our school to enrich their learning, from our local parish council and the local PCSO so children can hear and interact with different groups of people who form our Marchwood community.



## Science:

In Science, the children will be learning more about living things and their habitats by looking into the life cycles of plants and animals. They will learn about how these differ for mammals, insects, amphibians and birds and be able to draw comparisons and differences between each life cycle.

## RE:

In RE, the topic will be “The Empty Cross”, which will include a visit from Rev. Simon from Marchwood Church. This topic focuses around the Easter story, and involves looking at the Christian symbol of an empty cross and how this links to Christian beliefs that Jesus was crucified, and later resurrected by God. The children will participate in a class discussion about why resurrection is important to Christians and identify why Easter is an important time of year for Christians.



## Art:

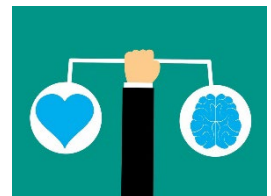
This half term, the children will be learning how to create a 3-dimensional sculpture of the human form from mod-roc and wire. They will be basing their designs on the work by sculptor Giacometti, and finding out about his life. They will also be practising their sketching skills by drawing the human form.

## Computing:

In computing this half term, the children will be developing their coding skills using their debugging and programming skills by completing a Scratch module to make their very own maths quizzes! We know the children really enjoy using the Scratch software, so we are looking forward to seeing how they get on with this topic.

## Learning Behaviour:

Our learning value this half term is Spirituality. The children will be developing their understanding of what makes them feel spiritual, the ‘wow’ moment! They will be learning about what makes them and others feel spiritual, how to describe their feelings and the value of contemplation.



## Homework

Mathematics homework is set on a Monday and should be handed in the following Monday. Spelling sentences are given out on a Monday and tested the following Monday. We expect the children’s Reading Star Journals to be handed in every Monday, so that they can be checked for 5 reads per week and for stars to be awarded for any additional reading that the children have completed.

**Thank you for your continued support with homework and shared home reading. This really makes a difference to your child’s education.**

There will be two pieces of topic homework given out separately this term. One will encourage children to retrieve knowledge learnt from their previous topic (Southampton changes) and the other encourages children to reflect on their current learning in French.

## **PE**

PE kit will be required in school on the following days:

5S: Friday (double session)

5P and 5G: Monday and Thursday

However, your child **SHOULD** also have their kit in with them from the start of the week as these days can be subject to change.

We look forward to a good half term of work together. If you have any queries, as always, please don't hesitate to contact us. We are always at the gate after school if you need a quick chat.

Thank you,

Mrs Searle, Mr Pepin and Miss Geary

**Year 5 team**