

September 2009



Miss Bridges
Mrs Saunderson

Year 5 Newsletter

Welcome back to *Hopping Hill Primary* as a Year 5 parent. A new school year means lots of new and exciting challenges for your child. Here is some information about the first half term.

Water, Water, everywhere! It certainly will be in Year 5 this half term. Our theme for the half term is *Elements* and lots of our learning across the subjects will fit into this.

We will be looking at where the World's water is – children will be using atlases and maps to locate continents, major oceans and rivers in the world. Our work will explore geographical features of rivers. The children will also be researching and identifying the effects of major rivers on areas across the world and the impact a river has on its community. This will include flooding, across the world, Britain and our own local area.

Children will be creating *art, dance* and *music* based on our elements theme.

The children will also be learning about the Water Cycle as part of our Science work on changes of state. This unit will revisit some of the children's previous learning on solids, liquids and gases and build on this knowledge to explain various processes.



How can you help?

If you have been abroad this year discuss which oceans and seas you crossed on your journey.

Show children any pictures of rivers you may have, flooding in Northampton and watch the news!

Research at home or the library. Some useful websites the children could use:

- www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/Homework/gwater
- www.oxfam.org.uk/coolplanet/water
- www.waterinschools.com
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/riversandcoasts/rivers/whatis_river/



Literacy

Instructions – children will be exploring the features of instructional writing and using this to write their own instructions for a game and use ICT to edit and develop their work.

Poetry– reading and writing in various styles.

Drama – children will explore text through drama and produce writing based on their work.

On that note we are keen to find a visitor who has experience of flooding to help bring our Flood Drama to life. If you could help, please speak to Mrs S or Miss Bridges.

Alongside the focus on different styles of writing, children will be introduced to strategies to encourage accurate spelling and punctuation.

Children will be learning high frequency spellings as part of their homework – they will show you their card.



Numeracy

Calculating using known number facts – developing strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division

Handling data – collecting and presenting data

Children will be learning times tables as part of their homework – they will show you their colour coded learning programme.

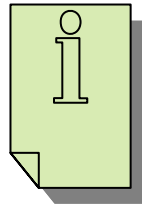
ICT

We will be learning about using spreadsheet to help make informed

decisions. We will be also be using our learning platform in lessons to build up our ICT skills on this useful tools.

PSHE

New beginnings – we will be exploring feelings and strategies to help in new situations.



Information

Your child will need to bring their *communication book, times tables card, high frequency card and reading books* in to school everyday.

Communication books need to be signed weekly as you comment on their homework; these will be regularly checked daily by the class teacher. We welcome any letters and comments in the communication book; your child knows how to make us aware of important notes etc.

PE kit (indoor and outdoor) must be in school everyday and can be kept in school.

Children will take part in cluster sports this year - this will happen at different times during the year.

Homework

We aim to encourage your child to become increasingly responsible for their learning through their homework. Projects will be set 3 times a year – you will be informed about content and requirements nearer the time. Please encourage your child to work as independently as they can to research and complete their projects.