

## Year 5 - information for parents of new children as well as children currently in Year 4

### 1. Introduction

- We are writing this information in July and of course we do not know exactly how we will be able to operate when school reopens in September. We will of course keep everyone informed of any possible changes.
- **The most significant change that has already been decided is that children will not wear school uniform for the first Half Term.**

The decision has been made to help the many parents of children who have not been able to buy uniform items from the School Shop of the last few months. This will be an important issue for our new children and those who have grown out of school uniform items. Details relating to this will be clarified by Mr Earnshaw but we would obviously hope that clothes are clean, smart and appropriate for an active school day.

### 2. The Year 5 Team

- Mr Wilbraham, Head of Year
- Mrs McGinty, Class teacher
- Mrs Alves, Class teacher
- Mrs Barraclough, Class teacher
- Miss Jakubas, Teaching Assistant

There are specialist teachers for Science, Modern Foreign Languages, Music and PE.

### Concerns?

If you have any concerns please email your class teacher. We are always happy to arrange times to meet to discuss issues too. You can also write a note in your child's homework diary.

**Meanwhile Mr Wilbraham's contact details are:**

**Phone: 01509 215172                      Email: [t.wilbraham@lsf.org](mailto:t.wilbraham@lsf.org)**

### 3. First day

- Term starts on Monday 7th September. We will contact you in early September to confirm arrangements.
- We run a Breakfast club and after school club (Wrap Around Care). They are not running at the moment due to COVID 19 restrictions. You will be given information about when these can facilities reopen so that you can book in advance (details will be in new parent information packs).
- Bus routes etc will also be in new parents' packs.
- **First Day routine:**
  - Line up at whistle.
  - We will start with lots of team and creative activities – linked to the North America theme.
  - End of school procedure will also need to be confirmed. Normally pick up by parents is in the Quad. Otherwise children go to the bus and car park pick up areas, (where they are supervised).

### 4. Academic information / curriculum.

- You will be aware that we are in the fortunate position where the secondary schools in the Loughborough Schools Foundation will offer places to Year 5 children, at Fairfield, during the Summer Term (2021). (Children are also at liberty to sit entrance exams in January 2022). Offers will be based on information gathered from assessments the children complete throughout Year 5. The 6 Fairfield Scholarships will be based on assessment data gathered in the Autumn Term of Year 6.
- **While we work hard in Year 5, this will not be a year of 'cramming' for exams.** Lessons are intended to be inspiring and we encourage children to be creative through discussion, drama, writing, art, film and online technology. They are given opportunities to develop and explain their own ideas in a supportive environment. Those that really enjoy debating have the opportunity to represent the school in debating competitions.
- **For Maths** we refer to the White Rose Maths scheme but obviously adapt it to the needs of the children. We are not expecting to be able to have Maths sets on our return but will intend to have 5 groups once we are able to do so.

- **We have developed cross curricular activities** for English, History and Geography. PSHEE and RE too where possible. Our themes are:
  - North America (Autumn term)
  - Ancient and Modern Greece (Spring Term)
  - Normans (Summer Term)
- **North America** -Includes looking at native Americans, how the continent was colonised (as well as the slave trade) plus climate, rivers and mountains. We eventually look at the Space Race and civil rights in North America and celebrate Thanksgiving with a themed day of activities. We normally visit the National Space Centre to link with the topic but will need to confirm any plans regarding trips at a later date when we know what is possible.
- **Ancient and Modern Greece** – includes an appreciation of how the landscape and climate affected the way the civilisation developed, and the legacy of the Ancient Greeks (Democracy, language, architecture). We also look at their gods, the way of life and also Greek myths and fables. We also look at the similarities and differences of Modern Greece and how society and culture there differs in the cities and the islands. We hope to have our architecture workshop and D.T. construction challenges and we also intend to have a themed Ancient Greece day, featuring a Greek Olympics and Greek dancing.
- **Norman Conquest** – We look at the Battle of Hastings and Norman legacy such as the Domesday Book, Bayeux Tapestry, Norman Castles and the feudal system. Our residential trip to Conwy, during the three days before Summer Half term includes a tour of the famous castle and we will attempt to create our own tapestry.
- We post lots of information on our Year 5 Firefly site too.

## 5. Reading

- We recommend regular reading at home. We have allocated time in class too, plus Guided Reading (notes are recorded in school and at home in the children's reading record).
- Accelerated Reader (AR) system tracks reading progress and provides comprehension quizzes which are available when a book is completed. Comprehension STAR tests are completed each half term to determine the level of books children can access on the AR system.

## 6. Homework

- 40 minutes a night (Monday to Thursday) PLUS reading
- Homework subjects are Maths, English, Topic (humanities subjects) and Science. Extensions can be requested by parents if there are foreseeable clashes with external clubs. Comprehension homework can be handed in the next day or on the following Monday (to allow for work to be completed over a weekend) but this must be the cut-off so that work can be marked ahead of the next lesson.

## 7. Games on Wednesdays

- Please check gum shields are fitted and bring football/rugby boots as well as hockey stick and shin pads etc.
- Please make sure all kit is named. When it is open, the Nearly New Shop is recommended as an excellent option for kit.
- Sports underlayers (Skins) are recommended, (Leggings too if training – although they cannot be worn for matches). Children can also get a jacket from the shop – recommend if in teams or just to keep warm for training
- The sports followed are - Netball, athletics, cricket, football, rugby, tennis, swimming and hockey.
- Many competitions and opportunities to represent the school and/or house.

## **8. Sports fixtures**

- It is unlikely that we will be able to have matches against other schools at the start of term. There are various fixtures through the year – usually parents and children are given plenty of notice via online communications and noticeboards in school.
- Spectators are encouraged to attend. There are always Teas etc after home fixtures in the hall – children go home once tea finished - not earlier.
- The return from away fixtures can often be a little later than the end of the school day. Children will be picked up from the car park after away matches. Spectators are welcome at away matches too. Again you are asked to wait while the children have their tea with the opposition. You will then be able to take the children home, once the teacher in charge has given permission.
- Details of our swimming lessons will be made available during the Autumn term.

## **9. The House system (Stand by banners)**

- Your child will be given a house to represent (Saxons, Normans, Vikings or Romans).
- There are competitions throughout the year. The children also earn house points for good behaviour or trying hard in class. They go toward a weekly house points competition and a lucky dip for individual prizes at Mr Earnshaw's Monday assembly.

## **10. Clubs**

- There are many and various clubs held at lunchtimes and after school.
- Your teacher will go through all of these with your child at the start of the term.

## **11. Instrumental music lessons**

- Rotated to avoid missing the same lessons.
- Various performances and concerts throughout the year, including informal lunchtime concerts.
- Contact the Music School directly for further information.

## **12. Other trips and highlights**

- Residential trip to Conwy (May 2021) – includes gorge walking, beach activities and a castle visit.
- Year 5 drama production (June 2021) – with direction from a professional drama company, the children work in small groups to devise and perform a play. All children have the opportunity to take a full part in the process.
- Fiver Challenge (June 2021) – The children form business teams and try to profits from a starting capital of £5.00.
- Year 5 House Cross Country (February) – parents are encouraged to support and also help with stewarding.