

Greenvale Primary School Curriculum Newsletter

Spring Term 2018

Year 5 – Kestrels

Dear Parents,

Welcome back, we hope you all had a very merry Christmas and wish you a happy New Year ahead. Mrs Bremer, Miss Reid, Mrs Bailey and I, all wish to send you our sincere thanks for the very kind and most generous Christmas gifts you gave us at the end of term; they were really appreciated.

This half term, after a short science unit on Rocks, for our next IPC unit we will become Space Explorers. After half term, we also have our Whitgift School week which we know from previous experience, the children will really enjoy. More details will follow in due course but it may help you to know in advance that parents in previous years have preferred to make their own arrangements to drop children off around 9.15 and collect them at 2.15pm. Many parents arrange this between themselves, sharing lifts for the week and where this has not been possible, have let us know so we can help with arrangements. Whitgift Week is a fabulous opportunity for our year 5 children to experience a whole week of IT, art, foreign languages, Science and PE in a secondary school setting.

Although this is a short term, we have a lot to get through and this term can often be a very productive one. Please support your child as much as possible through homework, checking they know their times tables and related division facts inside out, supporting them with each new Reading Challenge and encouraging them to do their best in all things, not just what 'will do'. The New National Curriculum is much more demanding than previously and basics such as spelling, punctuation and handwriting are essential basics of Year 5 achievement, without which it is not possible to be 'In Line' with expected standards. The class are aware of the high expectations we have of them and we hope they will rise to the challenge. We want to support your child to be the very best they can be.

Subject	Topic & Details
English	(NF)Reports and Journalistic Writings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Studying different ways of writing speech. Comparing formal and informal writing and use of passive voice. Children get the opportunity to write a newspaper report. (F)Drama: Shakespeare: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Explore the use of old-fashioned words in Shakespeare's, watch and listen to a Shakespeare play, exploring, writing and performing short scripts (P) Poetic style: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Reading a range of poems from two well-known poets; Michael Rosen and Roger McGough. Explore the use of language and how the writers imply deeper meanings. Children write their own free-verse poems inspired by those they have read.
Reading expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Children should be reading every day for <u>at least</u> 20 minutes.If your child still needs to develop fluency, they should be reading to an adult.All children should be writing down good vocabulary and phrasing they come across, in their new Authors' Toolkits for use in their written work. Please help them to understand the words they collect.This half term we are focusing on the children achieving more of their 10 Before 10 Awards. If your child is unable to read some of them independently, it is entirely acceptable for an adult to read the book <u>to</u> them. This is still sharing good modelling, hearing expression, new vocabulary and plot ideas.Our class text will be a continuation of Varjak Paw which we started last term. We will use this as inspiration for some writing and some Guided Reading work.
Maths	Multiplication and Division <ul style="list-style-type: none">FactorsCommon factors

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prime numbers • Square numbers • Cube numbers • Inverse operations (Multiplication and Division) • Multiply by 10, 100 and 1,000 • Divide by 10, 100 and 1,000 • Multiply and divide by multiples of 10, 100 and 1,000 <p>Number and place value in 6 digit numbers (including ordering and finding the number directly in between).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counting in 10s, 100s, 1,000s, 10,000s and 100,000s • Compare and order numbers to a million • Round numbers to a million • Negative numbers <p>Addition and Subtraction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add whole numbers with more than 4-digits (column method) • Subtract whole numbers with more than 4-digits (column method) • Round to estimate and approximate • Inverse operations (addition and subtraction) <p>Statistics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read and interpret line graphs • Draw line graphs • Use line graphs to solve problems • Read and interpret tables • Two way tables • Timetables <p>Please note that by this stage all children should know their times tables off by heart. If they do not, they will continue to find the curriculum increasingly challenging; this is why many children had times tables as one of their targets on Parents Evening. Please make the learning of these a priority, along with being able to tell the time using an analogue watch (one with hands, not a digital one)</p> <p>Any child who has not yet achieved the weekly Golden 60 times table challenge will join a regular practice group and I will also be running a small arithmetic group to support some children with their number skills.</p> <p>If anyone would like to purchase a recommended arithmetic book through school, we are still able to do this at the reduced price of £2.50.</p>
<p>IPC</p>	<p>Space Explorers: In Science, we'll be learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how we know the Sun, Earth and Moon are spherical. • the order of the planets in our solar system, naming and describing them. • how planets move in our solar system. • How day and night works and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky. • About the movement of the Moon.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about how light travels <p>In Art, we'll be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exploring the work of Peter Thorpe • using our sketch books to draw, exploring the effect of light on objects and people from different directions. • Using different mediums: charcoal, pastels <p>In Music, we'll be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening to music related to space • Looking at music related to films <p>In International, we'll be: Finding out about the International Space Station (ISS)</p>
RE/PSHE	Sikhism, Easter; Prevent
ICT	Much of this will be covered during our week at Whitgift: designing a quiz, coding, using LOGO, programming robots.
Dates for your diary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 26th Feb to Friday 2nd March Whitgift Week

And finally.....

- There are always a few sniffs and coughs in class at this time of year and we would really appreciate the gift of a tissue box if you are able to send one in.
- Please check that your children have the classroom basics: a pencil, a small ruler with cm on it, a working pen, a couple of highlighters and a green and a purple pen. A glue stick is optional but very handy. We supply colouring pens and pencils and pencil cases should be as small as possible please, we do not have space to accommodate huge novelty pencil cases which serve more as a distraction than anything else.

Please do ask if there is anything we can help you with, as we look forward to our highly productive Spring Term.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Harrison and Mrs Bremer