



DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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September 2017

Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter - Autumn Term 2017/18

First of all welcome back to the start of a new and exciting year for your child - their penultimate in primary school with all its many experiences and responsibilities.

This is an important year for many reasons, especially as your child is becoming older and hopefully more reliable in school. We always stress to the children that they should make the most of every opportunity made available to them over the coming year. As they prepare for Year 6, we want to equip them as best as we possibly can. This year your child will have the opportunity to develop his/her independence in their learning, will face challenges (particularly at Low Mill) and will be role models for many children younger than themselves.

Just like last year, we are now a year group with 2 classes. This will be an exciting time for your child as the classes grow and learn together with opportunities for shared whole year group learning (and trips!). Each class will cover the same topics and subjects and our Topic celebrations will be held together. Additionally, clear Year 5 roles (like play leaders, librarians, school council, etc.) will allow your child to work alongside others.

Our Learning

A curriculum overview has been attached to the website which outlines the topics and areas of study for the year ahead. Additionally, each half term there will be a Thematic Overview uploaded to the website which breaks down the individual objectives that we will be teaching. Please use this to look ahead at what your child will be learning and maybe even to inform some of your 'family time' (Hint: until the 5th November 2017 there is an exhibition at the Yorkshire Museum entitled 'Viking: Rediscover the Legend'. Featuring some of the most exciting Anglo-Saxon and Viking discoveries ever made, the exhibition explores how the Vikings transformed life in Britain. We would love to hear from the children about it, if any of you had time for a visit).

Useful Resources to Support Learning

There are some useful tips and links for supporting your child contained within the booklets given out at the Parent Welcome meeting. With regards Maths, we will again be using mymaths (<http://www.mymaths.co.uk>) as a teaching tool in class and for homeworks, as in previous years. Additionally, there are many interactive resources that can be found online using key word searches on google – you will be surprised at how specific they can be. There is also a comprehensive list of websites uploaded onto our website to help your child with both Maths and English at home too. Please do have a look. However, if you are still stuck for ideas then please do speak to one of us.

Getting Involved

You will always be welcomed into the classroom to support the children. Something as simple as listening to children read and questioning them about their book is invaluable to us and also useful for you when you work at home with your child. If you would like to volunteer to help in school in this way, please do let us know. In addition, if there is anyone with skills or knowledge related to any of our topics throughout the year, then please feel free to volunteer your expertise.

Important Dates & Events

We need to tell you one important event in the Summer Term that you will want to keep your diaries clear for (i.e. no booking holidays). The trip to Low Mill – a memorable few days away and the highlight of the school year for many children – will take place from **Monday 30th April to Wednesday 2nd May** for Miss Jarvis' class and from **Wednesday 2nd to Friday 4th May** for Mrs Elliott's class. Unfortunately, due to numbers within the cohort, we are unable to go as a year group and will instead go as 2 separate classes. This is, however, a fantastic opportunity for your children to enjoy time with one another, explore the outdoors and practise their team work. It would be fantastic if everyone was involved. If you have any concerns regarding the trip, please do come and see us.

Additional dates for this term will follow in due course.

Any other information.

In Year 5 the children are given regular and manageable amounts of homework, most of which is done in a homework book. It would be great if you could look at their homework book with them. It can be used for you to write comments and notes in as a form of home-school communication. Please tell us if the work is too difficult or easy for your child or if you require any tips for helping your child with homework. Homework is given on a Thursday to be in by the following Tuesday, although there may be times when it is given and required in on other days. It is recommended they do the bulk of the work over the weekend, when it is fresh in their mind, rather than leaving it to a stressful last-minute Monday night. Please feel free to help your child with their homework, although we do need to see what they are capable of independently. If they are confused or stuck, they can clarify things on Monday with the Year 5 staff: better to use that time than leave it and say, "I couldn't do it," on the Tuesday. If homework is not handed in on time, they will receive a late mark. Collect 2 of these and your child will miss a break time. We appreciate that there are some exceptional circumstances; if so, please see us.

And finally, if there is anything you want to know about, Year 5 in general, the coming year, homework or how you can help your child at home, please come and see us, or e-mail, or phone us at school. Home-school communication is vital to do the best for the children and we will happily see you whenever we can, if we are available. If we are not around, then please do leave a message to be passed on. You can contact us via e-mail at tracey.elliott@york.gov.uk and lucy.jarvis@york.gov.uk which we endeavour to check regularly. If you haven't received a prompt reply, then do ring school, or pop in, or send a letter. Please also remember the school website where there will be information and you can also see what your child has been doing in class.

We're sure this has given you an insight into the year ahead, and that together we can make it a rewarding and memorable year for the children at school.

Yours sincerely,

Tracey Elliott and Lucy Jarvis