



DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2016/17

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 children are 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.

As you may be aware 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 similar topics and subjects with our Topic celebrations being held together providing opportunities to have groups mingle across the two classes. Additionally clear Y5 roles (like play leaders, school council, etc.) will allow your children to work alongside one another. We very much look forward to this year and the different dynamic that it will bring.

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: there is currently an Anglo-Saxon exhibition at Leeds Armoury).

Useful Resources to Support Learning

There will be some useful math links given out at the Parent Welcome meeting; although, we will be focussing on using mymaths (<http://www.mymaths.co.uk>) as a teaching tool in class and for homework. 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. Hopefully, information will also be uploaded onto the website for subjects to show a range of internet sites/ideas to use at home with your child. Please do have a look. If you are still stuck with ideas then please see 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.

Anyone with skills or knowledge related to our topics please feel free to volunteer your expertise.

Important Dates & Events

We need to tell you one important event in the Spring 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 many children’s highlight of the school year – will take place from **Wednesday 3rd to Friday 5th May**. It is a fantastic opportunity to your children to enjoy time with one another, explore the outdoors and practise their team work. It will be fantastic if everyone was involved.

Additional dates include:

- Trip to Murton Park (Viking day) **Wednesday 2nd November**
- Year 5 Topic Celebration – Horrible Histories **Monday 10th October**
- Parents Evening is on **Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th October**.
- The Y5/6 performance ‘Wizard of Oz’ will be staged on the evenings of **Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd November at 6pm**.

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 Thursday to be in by Tuesday, although there may be times when it is given and required in 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 Y5 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: Y5 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 available. If we are not around, then please do leave a message to be passed on.

You can contact us via e-mail at pip.rab@york.gov.uk and tracey.elliott@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; 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 at the school.

Yours sincerely,

Pip Rab and Tracey Elliott