



# Year 5 Spring Newsletter



Happy New Year everyone. Welcome back; we are looking forward to an exciting Spring Term and have lots planned.

## Topic

What made the West so Wild? Our study this term will be on North America and will include both physical and human aspects starting from its colonisation in the 1600's to the modern day. We will focus particularly on Wild-West Towns and the African Slave Trade, including: cowboys and Native Americans, outlaws, pioneers and prospectors.

## English

In English, we will be using our online world 'Inspire Education' linking our writing to the Wild-West and our Topic. We will be covering the following genres: Explanation text, Newspapers, Biographies, Narrative, Poetry, Plays and Character and Setting descriptions. Through these genres we will be focussing on developing effective paragraph writing and considering audience and purpose for writing. In addition to this we will be focussing on the following grammatical features: modal verbs, noun phrases, prepositions, perfect tense, subordinate clauses and parenthesis.

## Maths

In Maths, we will be continuing to look at multiplication and division; developing our use of different strategies to do this with larger numbers. Then we will be looking at unpicking word problems involving all of the skills we have been learning so far in Year 5. After this, we will move on to Graphs. If you are helping at home, showing children alternative strategies to solve problems can really help them. In addition, any help with them learning their times tables would be really useful too.

## Science

The science topic for this term is 'Properties of Materials'. Children will learn how to categorise different materials according to their properties and to create experiments to test these properties. Children will also have to understand processes such as dissolving, irreversible reactions and secondary reactions. The focus is largely on working scientifically and creating and conducting experiments in a fair way.

## Art/DT

WHOLE-SCHOOL VISIBLE LEARNING PROJECT

## IT

In IT, we will be looking at coding. Children will be using the software 'Scratch2' and will have to design their own games including a maze, creating a character and a backdrop. Children will have to think about 'playability' of a game by adding scores and levels.

## PE

Mrs Sohna's class will be swimming on Wednesdays until Easter. Mr Clayton's class will be Hand-Ball until half-term. For our indoor lessons, both classes will be learning line-dancing to tie in with our Topic unit on the Wild-West.

## RE

This half-term, our focus is Sikhism. Our question of study is: Are Sikh stories important? We are learning to understand the importance of Sikh stories today.

## PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, Education)

We are looking at the importance of having dreams and goals. Children will have to set themselves long term, medium term and short term goals and breaking each down into manageable and measurable steps.

## Music

In music this half term we will be continuing to follow the 'Charanga' scheme and will be focussing on Jazz. Children will be learning about rhythm using a variety of instruments, notably: Xylophones and different percussion.

## Other

We would like to encourage all children to read every night for at least 20 minutes; this can be reading of any genre. Homework will continue to be given out and reviewed on Fridays.

## Useful Websites

Maths - <https://nrich.maths.org/>

All subjects - <https://www.busythings.co.uk/> (Login = home8972 Password = crazy8362)

## Key Dates

8<sup>th</sup> February - Mrs Sohna's Class Assembly