

Year 5&6 Newsletter

Term 3 2012

Christmas Presents

THANK YOU very much for your generosity and kindness during the festive season. We hope you had a very merry Christmas and an excellent start to the New Year. We look forward to the term ahead and hope you are ready for some exciting learning...

What we are learning about this half term...



Our Learning Journey this half term is called "Wacky Races." We will be gaining knowledge and understanding through our science topic of 'Forces' and investigating the effects of different forces.

We will be working towards creating a self propelling boat in DT and racing them to see which one travels the furthest, which one is the most creative design, which one travels in the most amusing way... In PSHE we will focus on 'Going for Goals' so will be considering our aspirations and ways to achieve our ambitions.

Other areas of the curriculum will be taught discretely (not included in the Learning Journey.) Outdoor PE will centre around invasion games, particularly football, hockey and netball. In French, our topic of 'directions,' will look at asking for, and giving directions to places in a town. In RE we will be learning about inspirational people; why they inspire us and their impact upon the lives of others. ICT will be an introduction to the use of spreadsheets. English will begin with the book 'Street Child' which tells the tale of an orphan in the Victorian era and his plight. The History topic of 'The Life of Dr Barnardo' ties in well with our English and will enrich the story being told.

DT

Please could you start collecting any empty containers / plastic bottles that could be useful for 'boat-making' in DT for later this term.

Also, if you have any self-propelling model boats at home (i.e. wind up bath toys, remote control boat), please could your child bring them in for next week's DT lesson where we will study how they work.

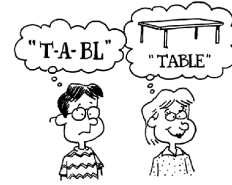


Bikeability

A second course has been provisionally arranged for May. It is currently half-full. If you have already indicated an interest or sent payment, your child's name will be on the list for this course. PLEASE DO NOT SEND IN ANY MORE FORMS / CHEQUES as up-to-date details and a consent form will be sent home much nearer the time. Thank you.

Spelling

We are introducing a new spelling programme throughout the school this term which gradually builds on spelling vocabulary by introducing patterns or conventions, and continually practising those already introduced. Spelling patterns will be taught explicitly and applied to high frequency words, cross-curricular words and pupils' own words.



The children will use a spelling journal which they will keep in school to record target words. These words will have been identified from the proof reading of the child's independent writing. The children will then be involved in devising strategies for learning their target words, and monitoring when they have spelt them correctly.

We will no longer send home weekly spellings to learn and carry out weekly spelling tests on a regular basis.

Make up

It has been noted that quite a few girls in Yr5/6 are coming to school wearing mascara or nail varnish when they should not be. As the reason most often given is that no make-up / nail varnish remover is available at home, Mrs Galea will be keeping these pads in Rowan class and any child that arrives with make-up or nail varnish on will be asked to remove it.



Dates for your diary

Mon 6th Feb -KS2 theatre trip – Romeo and Juliet (details to follow)
Friday 10th Feb - End of term