



Friday 8th September

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to Year 5 – the children have started off the year looking very smart in their new school uniforms and look ready and raring to go. The children have so far settled in well to Year 5 and we have been really impressed with how well they have embraced the transition to upper school.

This term, we are going to be focusing on place value, the four operations (+ - x ÷) and begin work on fractions in Maths. During our English lessons we are going to be exploring the text 'How to Train your Dragon' and using this to inspire our writing. In Shared Reading, we have a very exciting picture book called Mirror to base our learning on. Additionally, we will begin exploring our new topics of The USA in Geography and Space in Science. After half term, we will move on to looking at forces and the effects they have on us. We also have exciting learning opportunities planned for the children in French, Music, Art/DT, PE and Computing.

In Year 5, the children will do PE on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Children will continue to wear their PE kits to school on both of these days. We will do a mix of indoor and outdoor PE, so it is important that they have kit for all weathers. Just a reminder that PE kit should be a plain white t-shirt, dark shorts or joggers and trainers. Socks should also be standard school socks. The children will be expected to wear their school sweatshirt with their PE kit on Wednesday and Thursday but they may bring a plain hoodie in their school bags which they can wear for the actual lesson if needed.

Homework will be set on a Friday and due in by the following Friday. If your child is unable to complete their homework at home or needs additional support, teachers will be available in classrooms on a Thursday lunch time. Reading Records will be handed in on a Thursday to be checked. Listening to your child read at home is a fantastic way to support them in their development and we would like their records to be signed at least four times a week please. Now that children have reached Upper School, we allow them to record their own reading if they have read independently at home. Children will be rewarded for achieving this. We have attached a suggested reading list for Year 5 which we hope you will find useful. Additionally, library time for Jaguar will be on a Thursday and in Wolf, it will be on a Tuesday – please can you help to remind your child of this, so that library books are not overdue. Spellings will be sent home on a Friday and tested the following week. Please support your child in learning these. We would also encourage children to continue to learn their times tables, as they are vital to the Year 5 maths curriculum. Every child has a Times Tables Rockstar login which can be found stuck into their reading record.

In Year 5, we appreciate that some children may be being a little more independent and walking to school alone, therefore, in Upper School, children are allowed to bring a mobile phone to school with them. However, their mobile is not to be used on school grounds and will be turned off and given to the teacher as soon as they enter the classroom to be locked away. If you have not returned the form for walking to/from school then an additional copy can be provided at the school office.

We are really looking forward to working alongside you and your children this year. If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher either at the classroom door or via the year group email: year5@pdp.w-berks.sch.uk where we will aim to respond at a convenient time.

Kind Regards,
Miss Hall and Miss Mapleston