**Year 5 Class Newsletter January 2023**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Hello and welcome to 2023 in Year 5! I’ve really enjoyed settling in with the children over the Autumn term and am looking forward to a successful Spring. To say we have a lot to do is an understatement!

**Curriculum**

The curriculum here at Steeple is very strong, ambitious and varied. I will continue to use CUSP (Curriculum for Unity Schools Partnership). I am really impressed with our dedicated daily Reading and Writing lessons and look forward to reading A Midsummer Night’s Dream (the child friendly version!), I Am Not a Label and Boy in the Tower over the next term. Our Writing focusses on biographies, poems which explore form, letters, playscripts and story writing. In Maths we will be studying multiplication & division, fractions and decimals & percentages. **Familiarity with times tables will be vital this term**.



The CUSP Foundation Curriculum is looking super interesting this term. Below is a summary of each subject:

**Science**: Earth & Space

**History**: Ancient Greeks (Spring 1) and Comparing the Maya & Anglo-Saxons (Spring 2)

**Geography**: 4 & 6 figure grid references

**Art**: Textiles and collage

**DT**: Textiles - which fabric is ideal for creating a functional and hardwearing lunch bag?

**Computing**: Programming music

**PSHE**: Health and Wellbeing

**PE**: Outdoor games and yoga

**The Year 5 Team**

Due to my responsibilities as Deputy Head, Mrs Miller teaches Year 5 on Wednesdays. We are ably supported by Mrs Davage on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Mrs Mathieson and Mrs Spalding also spend time with us in the afternoons.

Year 5 need to come into school in their PE Kit on Mondays for a lesson with myself and Thursdays for a session with Mr Duers. Clearly this may change unexpectedly at times - please keep your eye on our Class Dojo wall because I will communicate any changes on there.

The class are also having great weekly French lessons with Madame Buckley every Tuesday. Their French is better than my rusty GCSE standard!

**Homework**

Besides the weekly spelling activity, we encourage the children to read at home as much as they can as well as practising their times tables using Times Tables Rock Stars and making use of their Sumdog account. I cannot stress enough how vital a fluency with times tables is. Multiplication and division is going to take up a chunk of our learning this half term and I would really appreciate your help and support from home as well. Please can I also ask you try and get the children to update their reading diaries when they have read at home. This doesn’t just have to be them reading to an adult - it could be a conversation about books or even you reading to them. Homework is **READING** and **X TABLE PRACTISE**.

I think all that remains to be said is thank you for your continued support and I’m looking forward to the coming term! As I’ve said previously, I think I’m quite approachable and reasonable so please feel free to come and chat at the end of the day or make an appointment to see me through the school office. A problem shared is a problem halved and all that.

Here’s to a successful term!

Kind regards,

Mr Luke Howden