

Newsletter

September 2019

Chestnut Class Newsletter – Autumn 1 – September 2019

Dear parents and Year 5 pupils,

We hope you all had a fantastic summer holiday and that the children are eager to start the new school year.

Our topic for the Autumn term will be ‘What gets your heart racing?’ which will be a science topic all about the heart, lungs and circulatory system; we have lots of exciting scientific investigations planned, which we are sure the children will love. We are looking forward to children learning new and interesting knowledge about how the body works!

Our topic will be accompanied by a class text, *Pig-Heart Boy* by Malorie Blackman. This will explore citizenship themes around organ donation, animal and human rights, friendship, trust and love. We have enough copies in school, but if your child would like their own copy, please feel free to purchase one for them.

Through our literacy, we will apply our growing knowledge of SPaG skills in descriptive writing, newspaper recounts, instructional and scientific writing and, after half term, narrative.

Our guided reading will be a journey throughout the text where children will focus on their inference and deduction skills. Book structure and author intent will also be explored throughout, both through *Pig-Heart Boy* and a range of other fiction, non-fiction and poetry texts. Reading is of high importance to us and, as part of the whole school reading challenge, we ask that you listen to your child read at least 4 times a week and sign their reading diaries. Children will need their reading books and diaries in school every day. Don't forget reading 4 times a week will result in a raffle ticket in the half termly draw!

We will be learning lots of new words during our topic! If you would like to support your child to become more familiar with these words in advance a list has been included at the bottom of this newsletter.

During the topic, children will learn about the function of the circulatory system, the importance of good health and the function of different organs. They will learn about the history of medicine and important scientific discoveries in the past. They will use art and DT skills to apply their new knowledge and understanding and at the end of the term, we are hoping to organise a fundraiser for British Heart Foundation, to help those affected by heart disease and other complications.

In mathematics, the focus this term will be place value, addition and subtraction. The focus throughout will Vocabulary, and its use in reasoning, will be evident within every lesson and the use of APE will be reinforced to develop and maintain a better understanding of the math skills.

Homework

On Fridays, children will be sent home with spelling to practise. These will then be tested the following week. We will also expect children to use Times Table Rockstars to support their growing timetable knowledge.

PE

PE this term will be Wednesday afternoon with Rotherham United Football Club (outside) and swimming on a Thursday morning.

Staffing

Mrs Saltis is currently still on maternity leave so myself and Miss Hardman will be teaching Y5 together this half term. Mrs Peplow will also assist with taking children swimming each week. Mrs Saltis is due to return at October half term. At this point, I will teach Mon and Tuesday and she will teach Wednesday-Friday, with Miss Hardman continuing to support in class.

The children have made an excellent start to the term and I am very much looking forward to being their teacher this year, as I am sure Mrs Saltis is too.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us

Kind regards

Mrs Littlewood

Vocabulary list:

Oxygenated/deoxygenated, circulatory, veins, absorption, haemoglobin
haemocyanin, cardiology, capillary, electrical impulses, prevention, transplant,
substance, pressure, trauma, syndrome, diagnosis/misdiagnosis, surgeons,
arteries, pulmonary, vessels, aorta, vena cava, anatomical, valves, atria, chordae
tendineae, dissection