

West Pennard Church of England Primary School

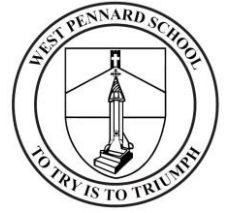


Church Lane, West Pennard, Glastonbury, BA6 8NT

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Headteacher: Miss J. Hale



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Class 5. I hope you all had an enjoyable summer break and now feel ready for an exciting new school year. Year 5 is a busy year with much to cover in preparation for Year 6.

I have included an overview of the things we will be covering in Year 5 during the autumn term. Our topic is 'Amazing Africa' and through this topic we will explore a whole range of topic-based learning linked to objectives across the primary subject areas.

English

Our class text is 'Journey to Jo'burg'. From this text and links to our Africa topic we will study setting descriptions, letter writing, non-chronological reports, newspaper reports and diary writing. As part of reading the text we will also explore the idea of apartheid and the role of Nelson Mandela in South Africa.

We will also have Guided Reading sessions every week in which we will focus on comprehension. Every child will be heard to read at least once a week during these sessions, and additionally during Accelerated Reader sessions.

Maths

Maths this term will cover place value, addition and subtraction, statistics, multiplication and division and area and perimeter. Children will practise a 'times table of the week' each week in class and be tested on this weekly. We will also have regular arithmetic tests to help improve their mental calculation strategies.

Science

Mrs Wade will teach Year 5 Science on a Thursday afternoon. This term will begin with Living Things - life cycles in mammals, amphibians, insects and birds and the life process in some plants and animals.

Topic

Our topic work this term will be based on 'Amazing Africa'. Children will compare the UK and countries in Africa such as Kenya in a variety of ways, as well as exploring the geography, culture and wildlife of African countries.

Art and D.T.

Children will design and create their own silhouette paintings, Africa animal print patterns and African bead jewellery. We will also design, make and evaluate our own Africa inspired bags; exploring the use of recycled materials.



R.E.

Our topic for this term is 'What do Christians believe about God and Incarnation?'

P.E.

Year 5 have P.E. on Tuesdays and Thursdays this term, so can children please have their P.E. kit in school on both these days.

Homework

Homework is designed to reinforce skills learned and practised in school the previous week. Please let me know if your child is having difficulty with homework or if it is causing anxiety for any reason. We suggest that Maths and SPAG homework take no more than an hour to complete. If you find it has taken this time and is not yet completed, please let us know on the sheet that your child has given their best effort. Maths and Spelling homework will be set on a Tuesday and collected the following Monday. A test of the previous week's spellings will take place on a Monday.

Accelerated Reader

Children have each been set an Accelerated Reader reading level and have now chosen a book. Once your child finishes their book, they will complete an online quiz at school. This quiz is based on comprehension and children's understanding of the book; so although the book and level they have been set may appear 'easier' than they are used to reading, the quiz allows us to ensure they are understanding what they are reading as well. Children will record in their planner their score for each quiz; if 100% they will immediately move to a higher level of book. Also if children score consistently highly at one level, they will be moved to a higher level.

Children will read 4 times a week in school in dedicated Accelerated Reader sessions. Children should also read a minimum of 4 times a week at home, which should be recorded in their school planner.

Please feel free to come and see me at a convenient time if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child. I will also be holding a 'Meet the Teacher' session on Thursday 20th September from 2.40, at which time I can answer any questions or offer further explanation of anything covered in this letter.

I look forward to working with your child for a very successful Year 5.

Yours sincerely,

Jess Morris