

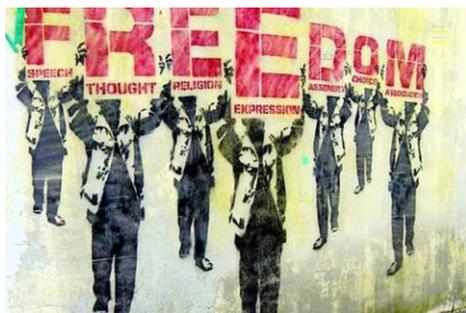


Year Five News

Mayhill Junior School, The Bury, Odiham, RG29 1NB

January 2019

Why fight for Freedom?



This half term our aim is to gain an understanding of some key episodes in the past which have helped provide us with the freedom which we enjoy today. During our topic we will discuss the importance of two key figures in the freedom fight; Emmeline Pankhurst and Nelson Mandela. Through learning about these key people, we aim to equip the children to ask questions, think critically and develop well-informed perspectives about these important events.

English

This half term, our English lessons will be based upon the text 'Island' by Armin Greder. In this enthralling picture book, the children will be encouraged to discuss the impact of the language and layout of the text and how particular word choices and illustrations make them (as the reader) feel. In response to the text, we will be planning and writing a newspaper report which will condemn the Islanders terrible mistreatment of the unfortunate man who was washed ashore. The children will learn about the key features of this style of writing and will be given opportunities to practise the skills required (e.g. reported speech) before writing their own. As a celebration of their work, the children will publish their newspaper reports to share with an audience.

Throughout the term, the children will be taking part in three weekly guided reading activities. Two of these activities will be based upon the class book we are reading at the time which is crucial in immersing the children in the story. Furthermore, the children will partake in weekly spelling lessons linked to a particular spelling pattern or focus to support them with learning and retaining their spellings. Handwriting lessons will continue to be delivered twice a week to support children in their presentation and striving towards the ultimate goal of achieving their 'Pen licence'.

Maths

The term will begin with a focus on understanding the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages. We will also return to our work on place value to ensure that the children secure their knowledge of decimal places and negative numbers. In addition, we will be engaging with problems which require the children to apply their knowledge from different domains (e.g. measures and shape) to find an answer.

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PE/Games

Children have 2 PE sessions every week, with each session lasting an hour. It is really important that they have their kit in school on those days. Year 5 have their PE lessons on the following days:

- **Indoor: Monday** – Dance
- **Outdoor: Thursday** – Handball

Come and Join us!

Helpers are always welcome in Year 5, especially for reading as the children love sharing their books with other people. If you feel you have something exciting to share with the children around any of our topics, maths, science or literacy, we would love to see you. No previous experience required! Please let your child's class teacher know if you are able to help at all, even if only once. Thank you!



Homework

Year 5 homework works in the same way as last term. It is set on a **Thursday** and must be completed by the following **Tuesday**. The children will have weekly spellings and a task for English and Maths. Sometimes this will involve a computer based task. If your child does not have access to a computer at home, please let us know. We are happy for them to join in with our weekly homework club which will run on Wednesday lunchtimes.

How you can help your child:

There are some fantastic websites that help children to either revise main concepts or to speed up their maths mental recall. Why not try these for starters:

Timed mental maths: <http://oswego.org/ocsd-web/games/mathmagician/cathymath.html>

Place Value: <http://www.toonuniversity.com/flash.asp?err=503&engine=15>

Shape: http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks2bitesize/maths/shape_space/3D_shapes/play.shtml

Reading: Year 5 all have a reading record book with spaces for the children to record their thoughts each time they read. This allows us to see which books they are reading at home and how often they are practising.

We are all very much looking forward to another exciting half-term. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning, please come and talk to us.

Kind regards,

The Year 5 team,
Mrs Robson, Miss Smy, Mrs Meldon and Mrs Rowlands

Dates for the diary:

January 7th First day of the spring term

January 23rd Year 5 parent lunch from 12.30pm

February 14th Year 5 exhibition of work from 2.30pm

February 15th INSET Day

February 18th - 22nd Half Term

February 25th First day back after half term