



Highwood Primary School

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Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential

Co-Headteachers Ms M Green and Mrs D Harte

7th September 2020

Y5 Autumn Year Group letter

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to school, and welcome to Year 5! We hope you have had a lovely summer and are looking forward to a new school year – hopefully, a more complete “year” than the last one!

Our focus this term will be to re-settle the children into the school routines, which have had to be altered slightly to take account of the current hygiene requirements. Our teaching will aim to restore the children’s enjoyment in learning, and to catch up on key areas of learning which they missed at the end of last year, whilst introducing new topics and activities.

This term, topics we will learn about include:

- **Science:** learning about forces and carrying out practical activities to develop the children’s knowledge of key vocabulary, including designing and making parachutes. Learning about Space and the Solar System.
- **History:** The Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings
- **Art/DT:** making Viking artefacts and creating Viking pictures and prints using different media.
- **RE:** Hinduism, Judaism and Christianity
- **PE:** Dance, athletics and handball

In the autumn term, our **class reader** will be The Saga of Erik the Viking by Terry Jones.

Home Learning:

This will start from the week beginning Monday 14th September 2020. Homework goes out on a Thursday and needs to come in on the following Tuesday. Children will be expected to complete one activity from the home learning grid every week along with reading, times tables practice, and a spelling task each week.

Reading / spelling pack:

Reading is essential to all of your child’s learning. Make reading a special time at home, on a regular basis where you share a story together and talk about what you have read. Please carry on reading more challenging books or other texts to your children, and/or find audiobooks to play to them, at home or in the car. (Library audiobooks on <https://herts.spydus.co.uk>)

Children will bring home a school reading book every day in a zip wallet, along with a reading journal and their new spelling book with homework and activities. We would



encourage all children to choose other books, magazines and reading materials in addition to our library resources - our "100 Best Books" scheme is only a starting point for your child's reading journey!

Please ensure that your child regularly reads, and practises spelling at home, and that their pack is brought back to school each day.

School work books:

Children need to make sure that all work in their books follows the 'neat work rules' which are displayed at the front of their book. They will be expected to continue using the cursive handwriting script when writing in their books.

Times tables:

Knowing all times tables to x12 is vital to all of the Mathematics learning in Year 5. Therefore, please support your child by helping them practise their times tables regularly. You could use games online, singing and chanting them on the way to school or through playing maths boards games.

P.E. Kit: **(Wear PE Kit to school on PE days!)**

Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing their full P.E. kit in school on Wednesdays and Fridays. Full P.E. kits: House colour T-shirt, black shorts, trainers, tracksuit trousers for outdoor P.E. and a black jumper. Girls need to make sure that their hair is tied back and that they are not wearing any jewellery. Tape can be provided by the children's teacher to cover up any stud earrings.

Parental Support:

In the future, we would be delighted to have your help in our classrooms if you have any spare time available during the school day - possibly reading with children or helping in practical lessons. We hope to be able to start this when we are able to welcome visitors back into the classroom.

Equipment:

While we are maintaining special hygiene precautions, children should **not** bring in their own pencil cases. All equipment will be provided by the school and kept on the children's tables for their use.

PPA:

The Year 5 teachers' planning time is on a Monday afternoon, which will be covered by Mr. Steve Johnson, teaching ICT and Madame Watson, teaching French.

Staffing:

Poplar 5: Mr Waygood

Willow 5: Mr Marshall

Teaching Assistant: Madame Watson

Many thanks,
Mr Daniel Waygood and Mr Jamie Marshall