

Toftwood Junior School Information for Parents/Carers



Spring 2
2019
Year Five

Year 5

English

We will be reading a whole class text linked to our Mayan topic. The children will learn about classic poetry and stories from other cultures which will then help them when writing a newspaper report.

Guided reading

Year 5 will continue to read *Wonder* as our reading for pleasure book. In reading lessons, (which are an hour each week) the children will be reading a text from another culture, linked to our history topic on the Mayans.

Mathematics

We will be working on fractions, decimals and percentages this half term.

Your child will be focussing on the following objectives:

- Finding equivalent fractions
- Converting and comparing improper and mixed fractions
- Adding and subtracting fractions
- Multiplying fractions
- Finding fractions of an amount
- Decimals up to 3 decimal places
- Decimals as fractions
- Rounding, ordering and comparing decimals
- Percentages as fractions and decimals
- Finding equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages

Please support your child and their maths learning through use of MyMaths and Rock Star Times tables. It is important that the children complete MyMaths Tasks independently as we need to know what they can complete on their own. There are other areas of MyMaths where they can work alongside you, such as the Games Area.

Science

The children will continue to learn about forces. They will be working scientifically, making careful observations and justifying their answers. During the half term children will investigate gravity, air resistance, gears, levers and pulleys, friction as well as water resistance.

Please explore these areas at home, asking questions such as:

What do you think will happen?

Why do you think that happened?

What would happen if we changed this part of the experiment?

Any additional work on this at home will help develop scientific skill and understanding, so please do let us know of any additional research or investigations your child carries out at home.

Topic

Our topic for this half term is *Mayan Civilisation*.

History

We will be studying the ancient *Mayan* civilisation and learning about artefacts, *Mayan* society, achievements and religion. We will also be cooking *Mayan* style food in Design and Technology.

Art

The children will be designing and creating their own *Mayan* style masks. They will be using various materials including, papier mache, plastic and decorative items. Each child will need a plastic milk bottle for this activity. Preferably the bottle will be sent into school washed/sterilised and ready to use. We would also appreciate donations of other materials such as newspapers.

P.E.

In P.E. this half term the focus will be Rugby. The children will also be taking part in Real P.E, which promotes the learning of basic skills and ensures P.E is fun, exciting and challenging. Each half term there will be some challenges. The challenges this term focus on ball and cognitive skills to complement the learning in rugby. Please ask your child what challenge they are working on and help them practise it at home.

PE days are as follows:

| | |
|--------------|------------------------|
| Mrs Rathi | Monday and Tuesday |
| Mrs Lee | Wednesday and Thursday |
| Miss Skinner | Monday and Thursday |

Please ensure your child brings their PE kit in on a Monday and takes it home on a Friday to be washed, if required. Long hair must be **tied back** and earrings should be **removed** for PE.

R.E.

In RE children have already been looking at the Easter story and the importance of the resurrection of Jesus. This will lead into work and discussion about salvation.

MFL

We will continue to learn Spanish. This half term we will be recapping our knowledge from Year 3 and 4 and focusing on music and creating simple conversations about our preferred music.

Music

We will be using the online resource Charanga to teach our music lessons. Our theme this half term is 'The Fresh Prince of Bel Air'. The children will also listen to a variety of music, share their opinions and answer questions about what they listen to and learn different songs. There will also be opportunities to play and improvise using percussion instruments such as glockenspiels.

If you listen to music in the car or at home, then challenge your child to give their opinion on that piece of music or a favourite piece of music.

Computing

In our computing sessions, we will continue to use technology to help children to present their work and complete internet based research. This research will include reviewing and analysing computer games and online tools.

We use a child friendly search engine called 'Kiddle' which filters content to ensure it is suitable for the children. We also have software that will highlight any unsuitable search items and track this to our individual log in information.

Website

If you have a computer connected to the internet, you may wish to visit our website. The address is: www.toftwood.norfolk.sch.uk

Online safety tips

Please share these with your child if they are accessing the internet.

- Always ask a grown up before you use the internet.
- Don't tell strangers where you live, your phone number or where you go to school. Only your friends and family need to know this.

PSHE and PATHS

This half term we will be thinking about 'Making and Keeping Friends'. This unit will include discussions and work around being a team member, joining in with others, dealing with teasing and managing your feelings.

Home Learning

We continue to ask that you support your child and their learning at home. We also appreciate that children have other interests and hobbies outside of school and family time is precious. To support your child, we will have our core set of

homework for all children on My Maths, Rock Star Times tables, spellings (please see the half term spelling list below) and reading.

Spelling

All children will have 10 words that will be sent home weekly. It is vital that your child practises these as often as possible until they spell them correctly in their independent writing. Get your child to put them into a written sentence at home to ensure they have a secure understanding of each word and how to spell it. Children will not be formally tested on their spellings but will be encouraged to use them in their writing.

Spring 2 spelling overview

| Week 1 | Week 2 | Week 3 | Week 4 | Week 5 | Week 6 |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| Words with an /or/ sound spelt 'or' | Words with /or/ sound spelt 'au' | Convert nouns or adjectives into verbs using the suffix -ate | Convert nouns or adjectives into verbs using the suffix -ise | Convert nouns or adjectives into verbs using the suffix -ify | Convert nouns or adjectives into verbs using the suffix -en |
| forty scorch absorb decorate afford enormous category tornado according opportunity | pause cause sauce fraud launch author August applaud astronaut restaurant | pollinate captivate activate motivate communicate medicate elasticate hyphenate alienate validate | criticise advertise capitalise finalise equalise fertilise terrorise socialise visualise vandalise | amplify solidify signify falsify glorify notify testify purify intensify classify | blacken brighten flatten lengthen mistaken straighten shorten thicken tighten toughen |

MyMaths

There is an expectation that children will complete set homework tasks within the allocated time given. The date MyMaths work is due is shared on the MyMaths site. This will be checked by the class teacher every Monday for the previous week and Dojo points will be awarded.

Times tables

The children have access to Times Tables Rockstars to practise these skills. Your child will **not** be quizzed on their times tables in order, so they must be confident in knowing their times tables in a random order. Practice and repetition are the main ways to learn, however, here are some ideas to help your child develop their times tables skills.

- Get your child to make 'sticks' of numbers; for example, if they are learning their 3x table, they will need to make a stick of 3, one of 6, 9, 12 and so on. They can then point at the correct stick as they count up in threes.

Seeing the numbers as visual quantities will help to embed the correct sequence in their minds.

- Playing games is also a useful method. You could write each times table on a piece of card and have the answer separately. The children will then need to match these up. Once they are more confident, time them with a stopwatch. See if they can try to beat their own record each time they do it.

Reading

Please continue to read regularly with your child at home and please ensure that they bring their Accelerated reading book to school. The library is available for changing books before school 8.30 - 9.00 and after school 3.25 - 4.00. Entrance is via the year 3 door and children only please. Please ensure your child's reading record is in school on Monday.

Additional Optional Home Learning

There will also be optional extra homework that can be completed at any point each half term. These must be handed in by **Monday 1st April**, for this half term. Children will be awarded dojo points for any additional home learning they complete, but please remember it is optional.

Suggestions include:

| Tasks |
|--|
| Research something that really grabs you about our Mayan topic at home. What makes it exciting to you? |
| Apply your understanding of fractions at home by finding different real life examples where fractions have been used. Take a picture and send it in to school. |
| Find out what different coding languages there are. |
| Find examples of different forces when you are out and about. Where can you see friction in action? |
| Research a poet you have heard of. What style of poem do they write? Edward Lear is always a good place to start! |
| Have a go at making Mayan Hot chocolate - with chilli flakes! |

If you have any further questions or would like more information about ways to help your child, please see their class teacher.