



Year 5 Newsletter

Autumn Term 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Firstly, we would like to extend to you a very warm welcome to Year 5. Your child has a fantastic year ahead of them and we hope that they will thoroughly enjoy the events and activities that will take place throughout the year. The Executive Leadership team have completed a rigorous risk assessment regarding the COVID19 pandemic and staff have been well briefed in the actions put in place to reduce the risk of infection. The processes in place will continue to be reviewed and follow guidance set out by the Department of Education and Public Health. If you have any questions regarding these actions, please contact either Mr James or Ms Lockey.

Mathematics

At HJS, we are proud to be entering our third year with the 'London South-West' Maths Hub where we use a 'teaching for mastery' approach for the teaching and learning of mathematics. This is where all children can contribute and explore ideas that can be very effectively fostered in mixed ability classrooms. Within this 'teaching for mastery' approach we emphasise the importance of developing secure mental Maths strategies alongside formal written methods (mathematical fluency) in order to provide a sound basis for calculation. This in turn allows our pupils to develop 'depth' in their understanding in order to access a range of reasoning/problem solving activities.



Maths Awards

Each academic year at HJS, pupils can take part in earning a Bronze/Silver/Gold/Platinum award for Maths. Pupils will need to start from Bronze and work through the stages up to Platinum. All you need to do is print off the task (or ask your class teacher) from our website, complete it at home and bring it into school for your class teacher to mark. Your child will then receive a certificate and for the Gold/Platinum awards they will receive a badge as well as a certificate.

Maths Awards:

Each academic year at HJS, pupils can take part in earning a bronze/silver/gold/platinum award for Maths. Pupils will need start from bronze and work through the stages up to platinum.

All you need to do is to print off (or ask your class teacher) the task, complete it at home and bring it into school for your class teacher to mark. Your child will then receive a certificate and for gold/platinum they will receive a badge as well as a certificate.

Happy calculating and good luck!

+ Year 3

+ Year 4

+ Year 5

+ Year 6

English

Our English curriculum equips the children with a strong command of the written and spoken word and aims to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for

enjoyment. English is taught every day, usually during one of the morning sessions, and lessons focus on one or more of the following areas:

- Reading, including reading comprehension
- Writing
- Grammar and Punctuation (spelling is taught separately)
- Oracy

Reading

Reading comprehension is taught daily during dedicated Guided Reading lessons; it can also be a focus of English lessons. Reading comprehension is delivered via whole-class teaching and focuses on enhancing the children's skills of fact retrieval, inference and deduction, making comparisons, summarising, predicting and understanding authorial intent.

Writing

Writing lessons are based around key texts that are read by the class as a whole, or have strong cross-curricular links to science, history or geography topics. The children will have the opportunity throughout the year to write for a range of audiences and purposes including to entertain, to inform and to discuss.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

Grammar and Punctuation is taught explicitly in dedicated English lessons; it is also taught during writing lessons to enable the children to use certain features appropriately in context. Spelling is taught separately during weekly lessons and will often focus on a particular spelling pattern. Spelling homework will concentrate on these spelling patterns, on words from the statutory spelling list for your child's year group, or a personalised list of words taken from your child's work in class.

Oracy

The ability to communicate verbally is a vital skill, essential to success in all areas of life. Furthermore, oracy skills support and enhance a range of social, emotional and inter-personal skills including self-confidence, self-awareness, resilience and empathy. Throughout the year, we will integrate the teaching of oracy – learning to talk well and learning well through talk – into lessons across the curriculum. Moreover, there will be numerous whole-school events focusing on the development of oracy skills, beginning with our poetry competition later this term.

Reading Scheme

Children in years 3, 4 and 5 will be allocated books from our updated reading scheme. Their progress will be monitored regularly by their class teacher to ensure that they are on the correct reading band. Your child will change their reading book once a week, on a specific day. If your child finishes the book within the first few days we would encourage them to re-read the book and continue to discuss the key vocabulary and themes with an adult; this can significantly build confidence in reading ability and fluency. As our reading scheme will allow us to broaden our understanding of each child's reading practices, along with their perceptions of themselves as a reader, we would expect that your child's reading homework will be to read their reading scheme book, which will then be signed in their Home-School diary. Please see the separate letter regarding the reading scheme for further information.

Upcoming Events

Roald Dahl Day (no dressing up) – Friday 18th September
National Poetry Day – Thursday 1st October
Poetry Competition Final – Monday 19th October
No Pens Wednesday – Wednesday 25th November

We hope that later in the year we will be able to resume our author visits to inspire the children, as well as host the Scholastic Book Fair. Dates for these events will be confirmed nearer the time.

Topics

There are many exciting topics being taught in Year 5 this year. In Science we will begin by exploring ‘Properties and Changes of Materials’ and move on to studying ‘Animals including Humans’. In history, we will be focusing on the Tudors, including the reign of King Henry VIII and the significant events of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. This topic will include a Tudor Day in school (please see the **School Visits and Events** section below for more information). Later on in the term, there will be requests going home for Tudor costumes and large cardboard boxes to be transformed into Tudor Houses, so please keep your eyes peeled!

Home-School Diary

The Home-school Diary is a form of communication between school and home. These have been improved as a result of feedback from pupils and parents. The Home-School Diary should be used to record when you hear your child read and when they practise their spellings and maths skill; they will be signed by your child’s teacher on a weekly basis. The Home-School Agreement is found on page 2 and will need to be signed at the earliest opportunity.

Please be aware that in the event of loss of your child’s diary a replacement will need to be purchased from the office at a cost of £5.00.

Games and PE

Games lessons for the year group will take place on **Wednesday and Friday** this term and will see the children improving their skills in invasion games.

Please ensure that on these days your child comes to school wearing their kit (house t-shirt, black shorts, socks, plimsolls and trainers) and that all items are clearly labelled with your child’s name. When the weather turns colder, your child will need a school black hooded jumper and plain black jogging bottoms or trousers. Please remember the children are not permitted to wear branded clothing e.g. Hollister for games, nor will they be allowed to wear their red school sweatshirt. It is school policy for long hair to be tied back and for earrings and watches to be removed or covered for health and safety reasons during Games and PE lessons.

Homework

Your child's home-school diary should be used to record the homework that they have been set and have completed each week. They are expected to complete homework for: **reading, spelling and core maths skill**. Each activity should occur a minimum of five times per week and take between five and ten minutes. An adult must sign to confirm that your child has read and practised their core maths skill on the 'weekly learning support pages'. A weekly spelling assessment in school will be administered to check that your child is practising their spellings regularly.

On a **Monday**, your child's class teacher will allocate their spellings and weekly spelling strategy. Your child is responsible for ensuring they have an appropriate reading book in school every day.

Uniform and Equipment

The governors and staff at Hampton Junior School believe the school uniform is an important part of the school's success. We believe it builds a sense of belonging to our school and we are proud of the image portrayed by children wearing our school uniform in the local community. Please send your child to school in the appropriate school uniform and shoes.

It would be very helpful if your child could arrive each morning equipped with the following stationery:

- At least two pencils
- A whiteboard marker
- A blue handwriting pen
- A ruler
- A glue stick
- A yellow and green highlighter
- A purple biro

Behaviour and Rewards

At Hampton Junior School, both adults and children set high expectations with regards to behaviour. We are extremely proud that Ofsted recognises that children at our school are: '*very polite and show respect for one another and all adults*'.

As a school, we strive to: '*be the best you can be*' and, in order to achieve this, it is important the children follow our golden rules:

-  Be kind to others
-  Be a good listener
-  Be respectful towards yourself, others and the school environment
-  Be hard working and challenge yourself
-  Be responsible

Each year group has a senior member of staff, who oversees behaviour within that year. For Year 5, **Miss Delaney** will be the teacher responsible for ensuring the children maintain our high expectations for behaviour.

Voluntary contribution

We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £10 per child towards the cost of resources and activities throughout the term. This year, alongside termly cooking sessions, the children will be completing a week long Food Technology project as part of the new DT curriculum. The cost of ingredients and resources are now included in the new termly curriculum contribution. This can be paid online via ParentPay. This is a termly payment, however if you wish to pay £30 for the year, at the start, it would be gratefully received.

Volunteering in School

Due to current guidance, we are unable to invite volunteers into school. This will be reviewed by the ELT at half term. Volunteers may be required for day visits in which we will communicate with parents nearer the event.

School Visits and Events

Juniper Hall meeting – 7th October at 6pm TBC

Juniper Hall residential visit – 2nd, 3rd and 4th November TBC

Bude Presentation Evening – Wednesday 25th November at 6:30pm

5H Class Assembly – Friday 9th October at 9am

5N Class Assembly – Friday 23rd October at 9am

5P Class Assembly – Friday 16th November at 9am

Tudor Day – Monday 16th November

Parent Consultation and Communication

Following current government guidance, we will not be completing face-to-face consultations this term. At the end of the autumn term, families will receive an interim report outlining the progress that their child has made in the first term.

We hope that in the spring term we can begin to resume parent consultations whether it be face-to-face or through a virtual platform.

Health & Safety/Healthy School

May we remind you that we are a ‘Nut Aware’ school. This means we have children with **severe** nut allergies. Please do not include nut products in your child’s play time snack/packed lunch. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Please make sure that your child and younger siblings do not use the playground equipment before or after school. Also, for the children’s safety we ask bikes/scooters are not used in the playground.

Successful learning is the result of a productive and meaningful collaboration between staff, pupils and parents. We look forward to working with you and are confident we will enjoy a truly rewarding year.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E Hawes

Ms L Newton

Miss D Peaty