

Year 5 Newsletter Summer 2010

Dear Parents/Carers,

Another new term already! We hope you had a pleasant break. Last term seemed to pass as quickly as ever and once again your help and support were invaluable. It is always much appreciated.

This term seems to be even busier than the last, with all the usual Summer term activities such as Sport's Day, the Summer BBQ and the Year 5/6 production. We will let you know more about these as the term progresses.



We will cover a range of text types in Literacy this term. Our fictional texts will include narrative poetry, choral and performance poetry and dramatic conventions. One of our favourite fictional texts for the term is 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. We will study the composition of the text and its archaic language. We will also base our art work around this narrative poem through a topic entitled 'Talking Textiles' where the children will use materials and sewing techniques to create panels from the story.

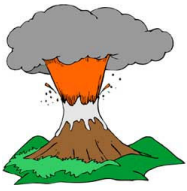
In non-fictional writing, we will focus on persuasive techniques, using role play to access the unfairness of the coffee growing process, the different points of view about curfews and the persuasive nature of the election process.

In Mathematics we will be building on the skills taught in the last two terms. These include using and manipulating numbers, such as adding, subtracting, doubling and halving decimals, studying patterns in number and shape, working with calculators, word problems and expressing the probability of events. In shape and space the children will study lines of symmetry, how to translate and rotate shapes and how to plot coordinates in up to four quadrants. We will continue working on the whole school targets and ask that you continue helping your child learn his/her times tables.

This term's P.E activities are outdoor games, athletics, gymnastics and swimming. Swimming will commence after half term. You will be informed nearer the time what your child will require and on which days. Please make sure that your child brings both outdoor and indoor P.E. kits into school on both Wednesdays and Fridays. If for some reason your child is unable to take part in a PE lesson, please provide a note; without a letter we will assume your child is healthy enough to participate.



Our science topic this half term is 'Keeping Healthy'. We will look at what it means to have a healthy lifestyle, including the need for exercise, healthy foods and sufficient sleep. We will also be looking at the impact on the body of leading a healthy lifestyle. After half term our topic changes to 'Gases around us' where we will study evidence of gases that can be found in everyday use and the dangers of some gases in certain situations, such as natural gas build ups in the home.



Our new geography topic for this term, 'An environmental issue: volcanoes' is highly topical and has already affected some of the pupils and staff at Milton School. We will study the recent eruption of Eyjafjallajokull volcano in Iceland, including its location, its impact of the environment, both locally and throughout Europe, and its impact on air travel and human geography. Children will have an opportunity to share their personal experiences linked to the eruption and air travel.

Further subjects taught include French, with Dave Hicks, on Tuesdays and Thursdays and RE, with Mrs Howes and Mrs O'Shea, on Fridays. In RE lessons the children will develop their responses to the natural world, including religious responses to recent world events, such as the earthquake in India and the volcano in Iceland. In the second half of this term, they will look at the Bible and what it means to Christians.

In I.C.T. the pupils will use 'Logit', a piece of equipment that collects data and allows children to manipulate the way in which it is presented. They will use Starz at school and we would appreciate you continuing to encourage your child to explore the Starz website at home; many children have clearly been very excited by the possibilities that are now open to them at the start of this new project.

Because of the increasing temperatures this term, and to reduce dehydration, please ensure your child has a clearly labeled plastic bottle of water in school, preferably with a sports cap to prevent spillages. This will be used inside and outside the classroom and is preferable to using the water fountain during lesson time.



We value the communication between home and school greatly and we hope you have felt that you have been able to come in and speak with us whenever you have felt it necessary. Please continue to do this.

Thank you once again for your continued help and support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Cutts and Mrs Webb