

BISHOP CORNISH CHURCH OF ENGLAND V.A. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Thursday 7th September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

Welcome back to a new school year and also into Year Five. I hope you've all had a really great summer and enjoyed the break. Below is some information which you may find helpful as to how things run in year five.

<u>Topic – 'Houston we have a problem'.</u>

In this topic we'll be learning about the Earth, Sun and Moon in science, as well as a little history on the race to the moon and the moon landing. ICT and music will also have cross curricular links with this topic. We'll then move onto looking at North America in more detail and this will flow into the geography aspect of the topic.

<u>P.E.</u>

In PE this half term we will be doing hockey and gymnastics. Our P.E. days are usually on Thursdays (we may have an indoor session) and Fridays (outside). However, there are times when we need to change our PE sessions to another day. The children may get a little wet, so a full change of PE clothes are a must for this lesson. A full PE kit, including plimsolls or trainers is needed (the children cannot do PE in school shoes). If any kits are taken home to be washed at the end of the week, please can they be back in school on the Monday. Many thanks for your help with this. Hopefully we will be able to get outside as much as possible this term.

<u>Homework</u>

In year 5, it is an expectation, as set out in our homework policy, that the children should have two tasks taking approximately 25 minutes each to complete per week. In addition to this, the children are expected to spend a total of 20 minutes per night on reading books and shorter tasks such as spellings or times tables. If the homework is taking far longer than this, please do speak to me.

The children will all have a homework book in which to complete the tasks. Mathletics tasks will be set online. If you need access to the internet, then please have a word with me and we can sort this out. All homework tasks for the week will be set on a Friday and handed in on the following Thursday. This will give children the time to complete tasks within their weekly routines at home, rather than having different tasks given on different nights. Homework tasks will be marked together during class time so the children will have the opportunity for their work to be discussed and reinforced. This method of marking books together is really beneficial and it also gives children the chance to celebrate their work which they have completed at home.

Reading

We use a scheme called Accelerated Reader within school. The children all have a number (called a ZPD) and they need to choose books which fit their ZPD level. When a book has been read, the children then complete a quiz online about the book. The website: <u>www.arbookfind.co.uk</u> is great for checking or finding books at the correct level. I'm more than happy for children to read their own books from home or even books they get out of the town library if these fit their level.

The chosen reading book does need to be brought to school daily as these are used within school. They also need to go home each evening as they also need to be read at home – this is part of homework. I would like the children to log 5 reads in a week (not every night – we all need a little break sometime). If you 'bank' 2 or 3 reads over the weekend, then you will only have the remaining sessions to 'bank' in the week. In your recycled planner, (we are being environmentally friendly in year 5), please log when you read and write down the pages.

I'm really looking forward to working with Year Five over the next academic year. Towards the end of September we are holding parents' evenings which will give us an opportunity to discuss how the children have settled in. If at any time you need to meet with me for a longer discussion, please feel free to arrange a convenient time which we can both manage.

Kind regards

Mrs Jones