



John Blow Primary School

Head Teacher: Mr Ben Carver

Year 5 – Spring Term 1

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back. I hope you all had a great Christmas, and New Year; I am looking forward to finding out what the children have been up to.

PE Days

PE lessons will take place on **Tuesdays and Wednesdays**. Please ensure that your child comes to school in their PE kit on these days. The kit should include a **red t-shirt, black shorts or black tracksuit bottoms, red or black jumper**. Please do not send your children in wearing football shirts.

Exciting events

I am sure the children are looking forward to our visit to the National Space Centre to support and consolidate our Space learning on Monday 19th January. If any parents can help on the visit, please let me know via the office.

We have a Body Image workshop on the 7th January and The Community Police Team in on the 9th January to talk to the children. On the 26th January Year 5 will be visiting the forest again- I know the children loved it last time.

We have Story telling week beginning on the 9th of February, and a Reading Café on the 12th February in the school hall. There's a lot to look forward to.

If any parents/grandparents could volunteer to hear the children read once a week, please could you let me know.

Home Learning

Reading: We expect children to record their reading in their diaries. Children should aim to complete a minimum of **three sessions of 20 minutes reading each week**. If a child reads three times they will receive a sticker, and for 5 times or more they will be entered for our weekly draw to win a prize from our 'Prize box'.

Starting in January, we will be introducing a new model for home learning completion. Home learning plays an important role in strengthening the partnership between home and school, while also helping children develop positive learning behaviours that prepare them for the next stage of their education. All homework will be due in on a Wednesday. Children will be reminded of this deadline, and if they forget to hand it in, they will have two further opportunities on Thursday and Friday. Please note that if homework is not handed in on Wednesday, we cannot guarantee that it will be marked, as class routines are organised to support this model; some classes also use Wednesday time to review learning and address misconceptions. If homework has not been completed by Friday, children will finish their tasks during Golden Time on Friday afternoon. We understand that families have busy schedules during the week and at weekends, but home learning remains essential in helping children apply and consolidate their learning, which is why we are prioritising this model. If you have any concerns about home learning, please speak to your child's class teacher—activities are designed to be accessible and should take no longer than 30 minutes each. Finally, please remember that reading at home is vital for your child's development, and we strongly encourage this at least three times a week.

Curriculum Overview: Our yearly overview of topics and themes for Year 5 is available on the school website for your reference. This will help you stay informed about what your child will be learning throughout the year.

This half term our class priorities are as follows:

- Division facts
 - To be able to use the bus stop method for division
 - To add detail to our writing through parenthesis
- Our diversification priority is...
- Understanding equality- focusing on Fairtrade

I am looking forward to another great half term.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you for your support,

Mr Barnard