



Autumn Newsletter

September 2024 Year 5/6

Happy new year! Welcome to the area for those year 5 children, and welcome back to our year 6 children. We have lots of activities planned for you all this coming term.

Knowledge Mats: We have key concepts linked to our topics that we want the children to remember called 'sticky knowledge'. We will introduce new units with a knowledge mat for the children to be introduced to the vocabulary we shall be using in each unit, as well as facts they should know. Please help your child to read these mats and recall knowledge from them. Any extra research done at home will be very much welcomed in at school, we will be delighted to see it!

Ironstone Mining: Year 5 and Year 6 Knowledge Mat		
Subject Specific Vocabulary		Exciting Books
drift	The entrance to the mine where it slopes into the ground.	
midge	A box shaped candle holder that a miner would sit on to have his dinner in the mine.	
powder house	Where the miners would go to buy their own gun powder to use in the mine.	
seam	The layer of the different types of rock and minerals in the ground the iron ore was the seam they were wanting to mine.	
tally	Each miner was given his own unique number to be accounted for going into and out of the mines.	
trappy boy	A boy, could be aged as young as 11, who opened the trap doors as the miners and horses walked through.	
tubs	The carts the horses pulled which were filled with iron ore in the mine.	
ventilation	This is where fresh or good air is made to flow through the mines, to help keep the miners from inhaling bad or stale air.	

Topic- This Autumn term our topic is Ironstone Mining. We shall be looking at how Brotton and the local area has changed from before the ironstone mines were opened in East Cleveland, to what the area was like, and what it was like to be part of and ironstone mining community, to how things changed in the area with their closure. We will be visiting the 'Land of Iron' formally known as the Cleveland Ironstone Mining Museum and doing some work in Skinningrove as well.

Science and PHSE:

This term we are looking at two different units of work, 'Living things and their habitats' and 'Forces'. With 'Living things and their habitats' we shall be investigating the

different groups of living things and how they are classified. We shall learn about how animals and plants reproduce and compare the life cycles of different species and plants. We shall also be looking at how animals and plants are classified and what characteristics they have to classify them with.

With the 'Forces' unit of work, many practical investigations will be carried out to test gravity, friction, air resistance and buoyancy.

In PHSE we shall be looking at 'Being Me in My World' which explores the role of the child within the community. The following half term, we look at 'Celebrating Difference' which identifies differences across cultures.

RE: This term we will be learning about Islam. We will discuss why Muhammad is important to Muslims, explore how Muslims worship in a Mosque and learn a little about the Holy Text, the Qur'an. The children will be encouraged to make links between other world religions they already know about and comment on the term 'faith'.

Reading: Please continue to hear your child read at home or sign their book if they have read independently. Ideally, the children will be reading at least three times a week at home. There are a range of prizes they can win based on the number of times they have read at home throughout the year.

PE: Every Tuesday and Friday your child will need to bring their PE kits in school which is a pair of trainers, a pair of shorts/jogging bottoms and a T shirt. Please can you ensure your child has the necessary kit and that if they require an inhaler that they have it with them.

Bikeability: We will be continuing to run our bikeability sessions during the week commencing the 18th November for 2 weeks.

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Bikes can be provided for the children, however if they have one, they can bring themselves, please do so. They will be required to bring warm, suitable clothing to wear whilst outside. There will be consent letters sent to those children who have been identified to complete the course, without these being completed the children cannot take part. They also need to be in school every day for the week they are participating so they can pass. If they will be absent for an appointment for example, it is important you can let us know so we can change the week they will do it. There has also been a parents' guide shared on the year 5 and 6 page on the school's website for parents to view. Any questions, please contact Miss Foster.

Homework: On Tuesdays your child will receive their Literacy homework which is due in on Wednesday. On Wednesday they will receive Numeracy homework which is due in on Thursday. On a Friday they will receive both Literacy and Numeracy homework which is due in the following Monday.

Spellings: In Miss Foster's literacy classes spellings are given out on a Monday, which they will be tested on a Friday. Mrs Boag's receive theirs on a Friday, for a test on the following Friday.

It is important that your child completes the homework set as it supports the work that they do in class. Please contact any of the teaching staff if there are any problems with the homework that has been set.

Residential visit to the Lake District: St John's in the Vale Residential visits are taking place Wednesday 4th-Friday 6th September, and Wednesday 11th- Friday 13th September.



Correspondence: If you have not signed up to Arbor or if you are having any issues with it, please can you contact the office for support. We suggest you look at the school's Facebook page to help keep you up to date with any other reminders or messages, for example an estimated time of arrival if we are on a trip and such like. We will also use Class Dojo for curriculum based progress of the activities we do in class.

Head Boy and Girl: All the children in year 6 are invited to put themselves forward to being voted as Head boy and girl for this academic year. The assembly where the children can read their speeches out to the rest of school is generally held towards the end of September. If your child wants to be considered, they may find it helpful to write a speech explaining why they feel they would be good at the role and what they have to offer. They may want to keep this speech at school so they are ready for the assembly. The children will be told when the assembly will be in good time so they can have time to practise their speech.

As you can see, we have a very busy term ahead. We hope the children are as full of energy as we are to embrace this first term this academic year!

Thank you for your continued support. Miss Foster, Mr Ormerod, Mrs Boag and Mrs Unthank.