

# Year 5 and 6 Autumn Term Newsletter 2020

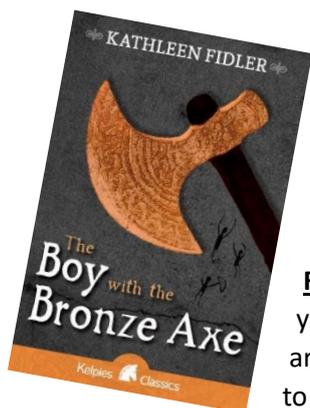
Welcome back to a new school year!

I am really excited to have everybody back at school and raring to go. We have lots of exciting topics planned this term which are outlined below as well as some important information and changes for this year.

Your child's mental wellbeing will be a priority as we return to school and we will be completing mindful activities and discussions as well as PSHE work through Heartsmart. We will also be adopting a recovery curriculum which especially focuses on picking up on any gaps in Maths and English to ensure that your child is on track with their learning this year.

**Maths** This year we are using White Rose for maths. We will begin with place value and then move into the 4 operations for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will be working hard to fill any gaps from last year.

As always, times tables will be a big focus and we will be continually practising and assessing these using written tests, games and activities and Times Tables Rockstars. Please encourage your child to use TTRS at home as this has proven to be a great resource. By the end of year 4, the curriculum states that all children should know all times tables up to 12 x 12 and there is now a statutory test in place to assess this at the end of year 4. The test allows 6 seconds to answer each question.



**English** Our class book this term is The Boy with the Bronze Axe. This is an exciting story which links really well to our History topic.

We are continuing to use Read Write Inc. and we will be beginning with "This is not a fairy tale." By Jeremy Strong. Lots of humour in this unit! You may want to encourage your child to discover other books by Jeremy Strong.

**Reading** We have ended our subscription with Reading Pro this year and over the year we will be looking into new and exciting way to promote reading! Our books are still levelled using Lexile levels and we will be using teacher assessments as usual to ensure your child is reading a book at the correct level. Please continue to read with your child at home as reading every day is beneficial to all subjects. **Look in your child's reading record to see our Book Bingo!**

**Science** This term we will begin by looking at forces and then living things.

**History** We are learning about the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age this term! We will be learning about a different way of life and the key changes that took place. I have attached our knowledge organiser for this unit which contains some key vocabulary you could practise with your child.

**Geography** In the second half of term, we will be developing our map reading skills.

**Art/DT** To start the term off, we will be improving our drawing skills by doing some observational drawing and practising different methods for sketching and shading.



# Year 5 and 6 Autumn Term Newsletter 2020

**Music** We will be revisiting the glockenspiel this term and learning about some great composers.

**French** Madame Cook will be returning this year. I was so impressed with the children's French skills last year and it was great to see them speaking French confidently.

**Computing** We will be recapping a range of computer skills this term and using Scratch to program.

**PE** PE will be on a Monday and a Friday. On these days, please can your child come into school wearing their PE kit and trainers. They do not need their uniform as they will stay in their PE kits for the full day. I recommend wearing a t-shirt and shorts with joggers and a hoody/jumper over the top. We will be beginning with football and netball skills.

**RE** In RE, we will be thinking about two questions this term: 'What does it mean of God is holy and loving?' and 'How significant is it that Mary was Jesus's mother?'

**A few changes in our classroom** Year 5 and 6 have a new classroom! We have swapped with Mrs Watson this year. We are sitting in rows facing forwards and all children have their own pencil case with the essentials, which have always been popular in my class. We will be sharing some other equipment which will be wiped regularly; I know some children like to bring their own colouring equipment so **if your child would like to bring in their own set of colouring pens/pencils they are more than welcome as long as they fit in their tray.**

**Welcome** Welcome to Brandan who has joined us in year 5!

**Homework** As before, CGP homework books will go out on a Tuesday and should be returned the following Monday. Please encourage your child to bring their homework back on time so that it can be marked before going home again. This year, I am going to set **talking homework on Seesaw**. Your child can use any of the response methods to complete the activity and we will share some of them in class. I will be sending out new login codes. Please let me know if you are not able to access Seesaw at home and I will find time in school. Spellings will be set on Spelling Shed as well as sent home in paper form for you to use as you wish. I do not need the paper copy back. **Spelling Shed is due every Thursday for a hand written test.**

**VIP** We will be continuing with VIP this year which is always a lovely time to celebrate all the things each child brings to our school. Unfortunately at the moment we cannot invite parents into school. **We will be washing the jumpers in school this year.**

If you have any questions at any point over the term, please feel free to email me.

Kind regards,

Mrs Curwen

