



## Year 5 Manta Ray Newsletter - Spring 2024

### Values: G.R.E.A.T.

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope that you had a relaxing, enjoyable and healthy Christmas break. The new term is already well under way.

The Spring term is a little shorter but we still have much to teach and learn. It will really help your child if you could hear them read regularly and support them with their arithmetic skills and spellings. Children should be spending at least 20 minutes on TT Rockstars. We have a weekly competition so please encourage them with this.

On Monday we start our topic of animals including humans and start off by looking at life cycles. Thank you to those that have already sent in photos of the children as babies and toddlers. If the children are able to, we would love to see baby and or toddler photos. It helps root the topic in their own history plus it's always great fun for children to share! Thank you!

#### Mathematics

We begin the term continuing to learn about multiplication and division - including multiplying and dividing increasingly more complex numbers using short methods.

The children will then revisit fractions then learn how to calculate perimeter and area.

The children will be consolidating their knowledge with a weekly arithmetic test.

#### English

This term, the two books that we will be studying are *Friend or Foe* by Michael Morpurgo and *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis.

Through these two texts, the children will be taught to write character descriptions, police and newspaper reports, formal and informal letters, a short adventure story and a persuasive letter.

They will look at a range of SPAG elements such as passive verbs and parenthesis. The children will also work on their reading skills, answering questions requiring retrieval, recall, inference, prediction and explanation linked to evidence in the text.

#### History and Geography

In our first topic unit, we will be looking at the **Ancient Sumer** civilisation - when and where did the civilisation first appear? What were their lives like? What impact did they have on the rest of the world?

After half term we will move onto studying **World Geography**, in particular climate zones, mapping skills, the difference between human and physical geography and comparing the UK with Brazil.



#### Science

Our Science topics this term are **Animals including Humans** followed by **Properties and Changes in Materials**.

#### Key days

PE - Tuesday and Friday  
Tuck shop (20p) - Thursday  
Spelling test - Friday  
Library visit on Monday

#### Reminders

- Please only send fruit, vegetables, breadsticks or rice cakes for break time snack.  
- Please ensure your child brings a water bottle and coat to school on a daily basis. We do go out to play in light rain showers!