

### **Homework**

We encourage all children to read for at least 15 minutes every day at home. As the children become more fluent, we will encourage them to take responsibility for changing their reading book once it has been read, using the library or the classroom library to select an appropriate book. We welcome the positive comments you make in the reading record and appreciate the time you take to listen to your child. It really helps them!

Children will continue to be given spellings, reading or grammar and maths homework on Friday which should be returned by Friday. Please practise spellings daily if possible—little and often is the best way to learn them. Spellings will be tested on Friday morning.

Your child will also bring home a piece of maths work each week. Each piece of work reinforces work already covered in school and should take approximately 30 minutes.

### **Expectations in Year 5**

As you know, our school motto is to Be Brave, Be Kind and Belong, children are therefore encouraged at all times to be polite, diligent and hard working. We want the children to do the best they can and feel a sense of pride and achievement in everything they do. We put emphasis on the presentation of the children's work. We encourage and teach independence and organisational skills.

### **Class rewards**

House points and stickers are given to individuals as reward for excellent behaviour, attitudes and work. Children will also be working as a table in order to collect points by ensuring they are ready to learn, focused and tidy. They can work towards a small treat once their table has completed their reward chart.

I hope you will find this information useful. If you have any further questions or queries do not hesitate to ask.

I look forward to another happy and enjoyable term in Year 5!

Thank you for your support.

With very best wishes,

Mr Finch



## Year 5 Class Booklet—Summer Term

Teacher: Mr Finch

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Davis  
and Mr Hawtin



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back Class 5! Wow, the Summer term has arrived! I am really looking forward to spending the summer with all of you and continuing to be brave in our learning, kind in our approach and feel that sense of belonging we all have at St Minver!. It is going to be fun and we will learn so much together. Let's hope the sun shines all term and we can enjoy our amazing outdoor spaces together.

This half term we will be focusing on the Ancient Maya as our topic. These were an ancient civilisation located in Central America. To support our topic we will be reading 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell, which is the story of 4 children who are the only survivors of a plane crash in the Amazon jungle. It's a great read!

### **English**

In English, this term, we will be continuing to link our learning to our topic of the Ancient Maya. We will also be reading and linking our work to the book, 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. We will be producing information leaflets on the Amazon and Brazil, writing persuasive letters, information leaflets and stories. On a weekly basis we will also be covering the following:-

- \* Whole class reading
- \* Individual reading either independently or to an adult.
- \* Handwriting practice
- \* SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) lessons.
- \* Weekly spellings are sent home to reinforce what is being taught in school.
- \* Regular library visits to choose a new library book.

### **Maths**

In maths we will be focusing on decimals and percentages this term. The children's knowledge of times tables is key to all areas of maths, especially percentages, and that being the case I would encourage as much focus on this at home as possible and we will continue to focus on this when we return to school. We use Times Tables Rockstars to test the children every Friday and also use timestables.co.uk as a resource for helping them to practise in school too.

This term we will be:

- Finding fractions of amounts
- Looking at the place value of 2 decimal place numbers, e.g. the value of the 4 in 3.24
- Ordering decimals
- Linking fractions, decimals and percentages
- Adding and subtracting decimal numbers
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### **Computing**

This term we will continue to build our knowledge of how to stay safe online. We will be using the internet to research information on the Amazon, Brazil and the Ancient Maya.

### **Science**

This term we will be learning about the life cycles of different groups of animals. How animals and flowering plants reproduce and learning about some famous naturalists.

### **RE**

In RE we will be learning about Christianity. We will be exploring the question, 'Christians and how to live: What would Jesus do?'

### **Topic**

We will be learning about the Ancient Maya this term. Investigating how and when Europeans encountered the Mayan civilisation. We will also locate where the Maya lived on a world map and the modern day countries and cities that are there now. We will explore how we know about the Mayan civilisation and their way of life. We will use a variety of sources to explore the physical geography of Mesoamerica. We will explore how Mayan society was organised and how this compares to modern society. We will explore what life is like for modern Mayan people and compare this to the life of the Maya in the 1st century. We will find out about what the Maya believed in, including their religious rites and rituals. Explore the implications of the Spanish conquest for the Mayan people. We will use a variety of sources to piece together what life was like for the Maya. We will consider the concept of a hierarchy in the context of Mayan society and modern society. Exploring the achievements of the Maya including their number systems and calendar. We will identify the areas of modern and Mayan lifestyles which are healthy or unhealthy and investigate the reasons behind the decline of the Mayan civilisation.

### **Music**

In music this term we will be focusing on Dancing In The Street, by Martha and the Vandellas amongst other songs linked to the same genre. We look at the importance of warming up our voices, along with having good posture and controlling our breathing. We will also use percussion instruments to create our own piece of music.

### **PSHE (Personal Social and Health Education)**

Each week the children will have PSHE lessons based on the Jigsaw Framework. During this time the children will play lots of different games which encourage them to get along with each other and follow the class and school rules and encourage them to be thoughtful, independent and mindful about their learning. We will be focusing on relationships this term including how to build our own and others' self esteem and what makes a healthy relationship.

### **PE**

This term the children will have PE on a Tuesday afternoon with Mr Rickard and a Thursday afternoon with Mr Finch. In PE this term we will focus on athletics and the children will also be developing their cricket and rounders skills with Mr Rickard. Please note that the children should now come to school in their normal uniform on PE days, bringing in their PE kit on a Monday so that they can change into it on the day of their PE session. Obviously, it being the summer, we anticipate that the children will likely have a few extra sessions too! We will also be swimming this half term for a week, beginning on Monday 9th May.

### **Art/DT**

Linking with our topic, the children will be designing their own chocolate bar and packaging.