

Cunningham Hill Junior School

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Dear Parents/Carers and Children of Year 5,

Welcome to Year 5!

After what has been an unusual time for us all, we hope you have all had an enjoyable summer and are looking forward to all the exciting things to come this year! We wanted to share with you some of the topics we will be studying this term, as well as a few of our expectations of the children.

What you need to bring

We expect children to be fully equipped for lessons each day. This includes a pencil case with pencils, a rubber, a sharpener and a black or blue roller-ball pen; coloured pencils are also useful. 'Frixion' pens are also really helpful. Children must have a full PE kit in school every day (including tracksuit bottoms as we go outside for PE throughout the winter), as well as an art apron (an old shirt or similar is fine). Finally, children should have their reading book, planner and a water bottle in school each day. Please ensure that all items are labelled with your child's name.

Homework & Planner

Homework has been formally re-introduced and we strongly feel that completing the expected tasks has an extremely positive impact on the children's learning. Planners may also be used as a further means of communication between home and school. Planners will be checked every Friday. However, if you have a pressing message, please feel free to write it in the diary and ask your child to give it directly to us.

Reading

All children are expected to read at home **at least** five times a week. Fluent readers obviously do not always need to read with an adult all the time, but we would ask that they do so at times during the week. This helps to develop fluency and expression. The children also benefit from recounting the story, discussing the characters or answering questions about the text to encourage a deeper understanding. If you would like further support with this, we can provide you with a leaflet of suitable comprehension questions for a range of genres. All the children are expected to record their reading into their planners, including the pages they have read. The planner must be signed by an adult every week as it will be checked on Fridays to ensure that children are reading sufficiently. A record will also be kept in class of when children are changing their books.

Times Tables and Spellings

Spellings will continue to be learnt and tested each day at school. In addition to this, *some* children will bring home a 'spelling wall' for work at home.

Your child will also be expected to continue to develop their confidence with times tables and corresponding division facts, as well as mental maths. In Year 5, children are expected to practise their mental maths skills and times tables at least **three times a week** as part of their core homework tasks.

This term, Year 5's overriding theme for the curriculum will be **Greece**.

We will be studying the following topics:

Science: Life cycles, animals – including humans.

History: Ancient Greece

Geography: Modern Greece

Art: Sculpture (Greek Theatre Masks)

D & T: Making Moving Toys

RE: Christianity and Judaism

Music: Heroes of Troy songs and linked composing, Songs for Year Five play.

ICT: Coding

PE: Tag Rugby, Dance, Basketball, Hockey

Dates for your diary:

Chill Out (all day): Friday 17th September

Chill Out (am only) Monday 8th November

Ancient Greek day with History Off the Page: Tuesday 16th November

Year 5 Play to Parents: Wednesday 15th December

Further details of the curriculum for this term can be found on the school website www.cunninghamhill-jun.herts.sch.uk as well as our Meet the Teacher slides.

If you would like to discuss this information, or have any questions over the course of the year, please feel free to arrange a meeting or telephone call.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 5 Team