



Decoy Community Primary School And First Steps Nursery

Deer Park Road, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 1DH

Tel: (01626) 353282

Headteacher: Mrs Sally Herbert

admin@decoyschool.co.uk

Tuesday 13th September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please find below the information that you will need for this term in Year 5. We hope that it is useful, but do please get in touch if you need any other information.

Reading – reading is so important for children’s education, and it is vital that children have as much practise as they can. In Year 5, the books that your children are reading usually come from the library as part of our Accelerated Reader scheme. We encourage you to discuss and question your child on their reading book; this will help them when they come to quiz. The comprehension of the text is very important and a child cannot move onto the next level of books until their understanding is secure. Accelerated Reader (AR) quizzes can be taken at home but it is vital that children take these quizzes independently without adult support. Children’s usernames and passwords will be written into the front of the reading record. The website for taking quizzes can be found at: <https://ukhosted51.renlearn.co.uk/2236651/default.aspx>, and will be found on our Google Classroom when this is up and running.

Children should record in their reading record which page they have read up to, and make a quick comment. We recommend that children try and read for at least ten minutes, at least once a day. If your child takes a quiz, this should also be recorded, along with their score. Please can an adult at home sign the reading record comments **four times a week** in order to evidence that your child has read. Helping our children to become fluent readers is perhaps THE most important thing we can do for them. Reading books and records need to be in school every day; we will check and sign reading records every **Wednesday** to make sure that children are keeping up with their reading.

Curriculum – Our school website contains details of our whole school curriculum. In addition, please find a list below of topics being covered in Year 5 this Spring Term.

- PSHE – *Being Me in My World, Celebrating Difference*
- Art and Design – Pop Art and printing (Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Yayoi Kusama)
- Computing – we are games developers, we are cryptographers
- Design and Technology – building frame structures
- English – *Women in Science* (writing biographies), *Eats Shoots and Leaves* (using commas), *Everest* (recounting expeditions), *Bethlehem* (Christmas poetry)
- Geography – mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes
- History – ancient Egypt
- Mathematics – place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions A





Decoy Community Primary School And First Steps Nursery

Deer Park Road, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 1DH

Tel: (01626) 353282

Headteacher: Mrs Sally Herbert

admin@decoyschool.co.uk

- Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish) – ¿Tienes una mascota? (Do you have a pet?) La fecha (the date)
- Music – *Stand by Me* by Ben E. King, classroom jazz with glockenspiels
- Religious Education – what does it mean for Christians to believe that God is holy and loving? What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today?
- Physical Education – aerobics, gymnastics, fitness circuits, netball
- Science – space and forces

Homework – we will give homework once a week on a **Friday**, and collect books back in the following **Wednesday**. We will usually set maths, spellings and occasionally topic-related homework. Children should complete their Sparx times tables every week just as they did in Year 4. Information about Sparx, including how to login into a child's account is stuck into their homework book. We will mark homework with ticks and a brief comment, and if there are any issues, we will talk to children about these at school. We do expect the children to present their work neatly to the standard they know is expected in their school books.

PE – PE is on **Monday** and **Tuesday**. Children should have their PE kit in school on these days. Each week, we will have one session indoors, and one outdoors (weather dependent). PE kit should be Black PE shorts, white T-shirt or polo shirt, black leggings, plimsolls or trainers, plain tracksuit top and/or plain jogging bottoms (grey or black).

Snacks – we would like your help to promote healthy snacks at break time. Please avoid sending in crisps, biscuits and chocolate bars, or anything containing nuts, and instead encourage the children to eat a piece of fruit, a cereal bar or breadsticks, for example.

Labelling – please may we kindly ask that all jumpers, coats, drinks bottles and packed lunch boxes are labelled with your child's name. As we are sure you will appreciate, finding and returning un-named lost property to children can be time consuming.

E-mails – Mr Ball can be emailed at sball@decoyschool.co.uk, Mrs Doets can be reached at ndoets@decoyschool.co.uk, and Mrs Searle at dsearle@decoyschool.co.uk. Please be aware that it is school policy that there is no expectation for staff to respond to emails outside of their working hours. Mrs Searle teaches Kestrels class on Monday afternoons, and Owls class on Tuesday afternoons.

Thank you for your support,
Stephen Ball, Natassia Doets and Debbie Searle
Year 5 Class Teachers

