



**November 2024**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a restful half-term break and a good start to the busy half-term ahead!

## Curriculum

**English** – This half term we are focusing on persuasive writing. We begin the unit by learning about the persuasive devices used in adverts and then move on to formal persuasive letter writing. Throughout the unit, we will discuss the appropriate tone for different types of persuasive writing, and ways in which to create this.

**History** – We have moved on to our next topic: Anglo Saxon Britain. In this topic, we will learn about the arrival of the Angles, Saxons and Jutes to Britain; the reasons for their migration and the impact they had on life here. The topic will progress to learning about how Britain was divided into seven kingdoms, and exploring the spread of Christianity in the British Isles.

**Geography** – We have moved on to our next topic: Oceans. We will learn about the difference between the sea and an ocean; identify the five oceans of the world; explore salinity, maritime trade, and ocean currents. We will also focus on oceans and climate change, and how human behaviour is affecting our oceans.

**Science** – We have moved on to our next topic: Forces. Building on children's previous learning of forces, we will focus on friction, gravity, air resistance and water resistance.

**Maths** – All maths groups are moving on to multiplication and division this half term. Please keep referring to the weekly overview for more specific information.

**Religions and worldviews** – We are continuing to learn about Islam, with a focus on the Five Pillars of the Islamic faith. This half term will focus on: Sawm and Ramadan, Zakah and the Hajj pilgrimage. Throughout our explorations of the faith and what it means to be a Muslim, we will continue to make connections with other faiths and also non-religious beliefs.

**Reading** – Children will continue to read in small group guided reading workshops. Some children will have a school reading book to take home, selected by their class teacher. Please ensure that if your child is given a school reading book, that they bring this to and from school every day, as they may require it for additional reading practice at school. Please also ensure to read this book with them at home.

***We would really like to emphasise the importance of continuing to listen to your child reading aloud at home, even if they are able to read confidently independently. It is incredibly beneficial to your child in terms of developing their comprehension, vocabulary and ability to read with tone and expression.***

**Music** – Building on our school trip to see the London Symphony Orchestra perform Gustav Holst's 'The Planets Suite', our music lessons this half term will focus on learning about some of these pieces

in more detail. We will learn about ostinato rhythms, and the children will work towards composing and performing their own planet-inspired group compositions.

**PSHE** – We will continue with the topic: Family and Relationships. Moving on from our focus on friendships last half term, this half term we will learn about the importance of self-respect and how this affects happiness and decision-making. We will also learn that sometimes family relationships may make children feel unhappy and we will be supporting children to understand what they can do if this happens.

**Design & Technology** – We will be having a D&T day this half term! The children will learn to make pop-up books!

**Using the toilet & drinking water** – We always ensure that children have plenty of opportunities to use the toilet and drink water throughout the school day, including before, after and between lessons; and during playtime and lunchtime.

At Coleridge, we do insist that children do not get up to drink water during lessons, as this can be a distraction for themselves and others during this important learning time.

We ask that children do not use the toilet when the teacher is delivering a ‘teaching input’, as this means they can miss key learning which is imperative for them to be successful in the lesson. Children can go to the toilet in lessons when working independently. Rest assured that children will always be allowed to go to the toilet if they really need to!

#### **Dates for your diaries**

**Visit the Year 5 Classrooms** – 18<sup>th</sup> November (8:50am – 9:05am)

**School play performances** – 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> December

**Christmas Carol Concert** – 16<sup>th</sup> December

We look forward to having a brilliant (and busy) half term!

Yours sincerely,

The Year 5 Team