



HIGHGATE

PRIMARY SCHOOL

24th February 2022

Dear Parents,

Year 5 Class Newsletter Spring 2

Welcome to the second half of the spring term and our topic, 'Highgate, N6'.

Topic

Our topic allows us to explore both the history and geography of our local area. We will be investigating how Highgate has changed from 250 years ago, when highwaymen hid at The Spaniard's Inn (owned by Dick Turpin's father) and The Gatehouse pub was a toll gate that stagecoaches paid to pass through on their way to the City of London, which could just be seen in the distance. We will look at old and new maps, consider how London has grown and find out how and why the shops in Highgate Village have altered over time. We will visit Highgate High Street and also Highgate Cemetery where we will research some of the many important or interesting people buried there.

The topic stretches right across the curriculum. In RE we will consider Easter and understand the significance of the Christian festival, including the Christian view of death. In DT we will be re-creating Highgate High Street from shoe boxes!

English

This half term we focus on the classic poem, 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. The children will perform it themselves and analyse it in detail to work out why the language used in it is so effective and memorable. Do read it yourself if you haven't before. After that we go on to look at story telling through films, particularly, The Piano, a short animation by Aiden Gibbons. The children will explore how filmmakers create mood, pace and viewpoint and will write their own film reviews.

Reading

As always, please keep up with your child's reading at home. We can really tell which children read regularly at home, as it has a huge impact on their comprehension and on their writing in school. Some children are making enormous progress because they are reading much more at home, or are reading more challenging books. Brilliant!

Maths

In maths we will be focusing on fractions and decimals. The children's times tables recall is improving, so thank you for all your efforts with this at home. Keep it up and see if you can beat your child on Times Tables Rock Stars!



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Trips

We will visit Highgate cemetery on **Friday 11th March**. The graveyard is exceptionally beautiful and contains the graves of prominent figures such as Karl Marx, Malcolm Maclaren, Christina Rossetti, George Elliot and Douglas Adams, author of The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy. After that, if the weather is fine, we will have lunch in Waterlow Park before walking back to school. We would love volunteers to come with us, so please let us know if you can accompany us.

Key Dates

Friday 11 th March	Trip to Highgate Cemetery
Wednesday 30 th March	Parent consultations
Thursday 31 st March	Parent consultations

We look forward to an exciting half term.

With very best wishes

The Year 5 Team



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