



# HIGHGATE

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Year 5 Newsletter Autumn 1

1<sup>st</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents,

We hope you had an enjoyable summer and that your child is excited and ready for Year 5! We are looking forward to a packed year filled with great topics and inspiring trips.

### Curriculum

Our topic this half term is 'A Victorian Education.' We will be immersing ourselves in Victorian history, comparing the lives of rich and poor children, finding out about the horrible jobs many Victorian children did, and discovering all about Victorian schooling. We will end the half term with Victorian Day, where the classrooms, curriculum, teachers and children will go back in time!

The Victorian theme stretches into the English curriculum. First, the children will read Berlie Doherty's wonderful book 'Street Child' in which Jim Jarvis, one of the original Barnardo's boys, retells his life story. We then move on to study 'Oliver Twist', the classic Victorian novel by Charles Dickens, which we both read excerpts from and watch on film.

In maths, we will begin by working on the children's understanding of number, focusing initially on place value, moving to addition and subtraction. By year 5 children expected to know all their times tables up to 12 x 12. As these are no longer explicitly taught in school, if your child is still learning their times tables, please ensure they are still practising daily using the TT Rockstars software.

In science, we look at animal life cycles, focusing on how the human body develops and in our SRE lessons we will be discussing puberty – please let us know if there is anything you would like us to be aware of ahead of this lesson.

In D.T, we will be starting group projects to make Victorian toys and the children will be building on their woodworking and sewing skills. Music will now be taught by Hilla, and we have already begun our twice-weekly Mandarin sessions.

### Reading

The children will be introduced to 20 new novels, specifically chosen for year 5, as part of our Reading Adventure journey. The reading adventure books are read exclusively in school and the children also have regular access to the library to take books home. Please do listen to your child read for 20 minutes each day at home and discuss the books with them – this interaction with an adult has been proved time and time again to have significant impact on a child's desire to read and the benefit that comes with it.



## Homework

From this week onwards, we will generally set weekly English and maths homework, although sometimes there may be topic or project homework instead. We will post it on Google Classroom each Friday and it needs to be uploaded by the following Wednesday. If your child is unable to complete their homework at home or needs additional support please let us know and we will be happy to help in the lunchtime homework club.

## PE

5IO P.E. takes place this term on Tuesday and Thursdays.

5NL P.E. takes place this term on Tuesday and Wednesdays.

Please make sure your child is wearing appropriate clothing for PE, including trainers. It is worth mentioning that the children will be expected to take part in PE lessons (and go out to break) even if there is light rain. Therefore, please ensure that your child has an appropriate waterproof layer to put on for such occasions.

## Class Assemblies and trips

Year 5 have the honour of being the first class assemblies of the year. Please do help your child to learn their lines and send in costumes as soon as possible – scripts will be coming home imminently. We have spare costumes available for any children that need them, with advance notice given.

## Key Dates

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> September - 3pm   | Year 5 welcome meeting for parents – in 5IO |
| Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September      | Trip to The Ragged School Museum            |
| Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September         | 5NL Class Assembly                          |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October (evening) | Laser Show                                  |
| Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October        | Harvest Assembly                            |
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October           | Last Day of Half Term                       |

Please do feel free to speak to us at the beginning or end of any school day or email us through the office.

With best wishes,

The Year 5 team



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