



LORD DERAMORE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.lordderamores.com

Year 5 and 6 Spring Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to thank you all for your support in ensuring your child was well-equipped and organised for school during the autumn term.

It is in the spring term when we look forward to longer and warmer days. The hectic time of Christmas is behind us and there are many things to look forward to in the coming term.

Year 6

To support children before their transition to secondary school, a small group of children will be involved in maths 'booster lessons' to focus on specific areas of mathematics. These lessons will take place once a week while the rest of the class are also doing maths, so all the children benefit from being in a smaller group. If your child is involved in booster lessons, (or there may be a specific area of development for your child to work on), you will receive a letter to invite you to attend a parent and child progress meeting. Other Year 6 parents are welcome to make an appointment to discuss their child's progress if you would like.

The Drama Festival (involving the Year 5 and 6 Drama Club) is on Saturday 17th March. It is held at York University, in the Central Hall and many schools in York participate (letter with more details nearer the time).

Curriculum

Our geography and history topic this term is 'Water - Rivers and Seas of the World'. Our science will be related to this - Materials (solids, liquids and gases and mixing, separating and dissolving), as well as some work on the Earth, sun and moon for Year 5. In art we will be working on landscape artists, and in ICT we will use different media applications to create powerpoint presentations, leaflets, musical compositions and artwork linked to the topic. In RE we will be studying the significance of water in different world religions and studying the Islamic religion. PE includes gymnastics, dance, and net and court games such as netball/basketball. Music will be influenced by the composer Smetana and will involve composition, based on the journey of a river. In DT we will be focusing on structures and building bridges.



Educational visits - 1. Monday 30th January - Drama, music and arts workshop focused around Holocaust Memorial Day - at University of York's Ron Cooke Hub
2. Rivers, bridges and flood defenses in York (Details to follow).

Year 5

During this term Miss Chloe Schroeter from York St. John College will be working with Year 5.

PE

Year 5 PE is on Wednesday with Mrs Hitchon and Friday with Mrs Gardonyi. Year 6 PE is

on Tuesday with Mr Iddon and on Friday with Mr Heale. PE may be indoors or outdoors and we expect children to have their full kit as detailed in their planner.

Assemblies

Year 5 class assembly is on **Thursday 26th January 2:50pm**

Year 6 class assembly is on **Thursday 9th February 2:50pm**

Multicultural Arts Week is the week beginning Monday 16th January

Australia day is on the 26th January

World Book Day is Thursday 1st March.

Homework

We will continue to set homework three times a week most weeks. We encourage the children to talk about this work at home, and we are very happy for you to work with your child and/or comment about their work if you want to. The children will bring home a list of spellings on a Monday to be practised each evening and learnt for a test on Friday, Maths homework will be set on Tuesdays (Year 5) and Wednesdays (Year 6). The children will have Learning Journals for more open ended and independent homework. This will usually be based on science or geography/history. It will be set on Fridays and should be handed in the following Thursday to give children plenty of time to complete the task to the best of their ability. This is in addition to reading, which we expect the children to do for a short time every night - please check your child's reading journal regularly. All children have regular tables tests and mental maths activities, so practice at home is really beneficial.

Reading

Our aim is to encourage a love of books and reading for enjoyment and finding out information. Therefore, children read most days at school. We would also encourage all children to read each evening and all parents to read with their child as often as possible. Even fluent readers benefit from reading aloud to an adult.

All children have a Reading Journal and we would be grateful if you could date whenever your child reads with you and note how they are getting on with their books. Please remember

that it is more important that a child understands and enjoys the book rather than ensuring they get to the end of the story quickly - little and often can often be more successful.

Red House Children's Book Award All children in school have the opportunity to sample new books published in 2011 and make their views known by voting on the shortlist and helping decide on the '2011 Winners'.



If you wish to see us about any aspect of your child's life in school, please pop in at the end of the school day, or make an appointment via the planner.

We hope that you all enjoyed our Key Stage 2 performance of 'Prickly Hay' and we would like to thank you all very much for your continued support. In the Spring Term we will be having teacher/parent interviews at the end of March (letters with further details nearer the time). May we wish you all a very happy New Year.

Best wishes,

Penny Gardonyi Peter Heale Jane Hitchon Annette Lee Sue Thompson