



September 2014

Dear Parent/Carer,

We would like to welcome all our new pupils, and their families, to our school.

This year, the Year 5 teaching team comprises:

Mrs Hood and Mrs Briscoe (5HB)
Miss Walker (5SW)

We also have a Teaching Assistant, Mrs Sharpin, working with us.

Starting off as we intend to continue, we will be working very hard and expecting great things from our pupils. High standards are set in all areas especially behaviour, academic work and appearance, with consideration for others being a key element in our Church of England School. Children who encounter difficulties coping with any aspect of school life are sensitively helped in a variety of positive ways. We want every child to develop and maintain a high self-esteem. School uniform is an important aspect of gaining this sense of pride and we do ask parents to ensure that all pupils are correctly attired for school.

Over the next half term, Year 5 will be following a unit of work on a theme that focuses on 'Mission to Mars'. During this unit, we will be focusing on DT, Geography and PSHE.

In DT, we will be:

- Investigating the technology that has been used to explore Mars
- Designing and making robots to explore Mars
- Designing and making a suitable shelter for living on Mars
- Measuring and joining materials with accuracy
- Evaluating our products, highlighting the importance of quality

In Geography, we will be:

- Finding out about the geographical features of Mars
- How we can prove that there was once water on Mars

In PSHE, we will be:

- Discussing how to work as a team and assemble a successful team for our mission to Mars
- Finding out how to write our own international rules and regulations for living on Mars
- Researching reasons why one day we might need to live on Mars

We will also be:

- Finding out what people in the past used to think about Mars
- Ensuring that we are fit and healthy for our space mission
- Finding out about the planets in our solar system
- How mass and weight are effected by gravity
- Researching different energy sources



Children will be reading, researching, writing, illustrating, working on their own and working in groups. We will be checking to see how well your child has learned through particular activities and asking children to explain their work, perhaps to you.

We already know the interest you take in your child's work. If you can, please discuss with your child the work they have done as the term progresses and let them teach you.

If your child has some work to research, please help them, but without actually doing the work. If you have the chance to further their interest in the ideas of this theme please take it, but your enthusiasm and interest is most important.

By the end of the unit, we hope your child has achieved all of the learning targets. We hope they have had an enjoyable time in the classroom and we hope you have enjoyed seeing your child work with enthusiasm. If you have any comments about the work your child has done, please get in touch.

If you have any other questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact us either through the contact book, at the beginning/end of the day or via the office.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Hood Mrs Briscoe Miss Walker

Year 5 Curriculum Summary 2014-15

	Autumn Term		Spring Term		Summer Term	
English/ Literacy	Traditional tales (Legends); Recount (Biography); Poetry (free verse and cinquains); Take One Book		Suspense and mystery stories; Persuasion; Poetry (free verse and raps); Take One Book		Fiction from literary heritage; Discussion (balanced argument and debate); Poetry (free verse and poetry appreciation); Take One Book	
Mathematics/ Numeracy	Number: number & place value; addition & subtraction; multiplication & division; fractions (including decimals & percentages). Measurement. Geometry: properties of shapes; position & direction. Statistics.		Number: number & place value; addition & subtraction; multiplication & division; fractions (including decimals & percentages). Measurement. Geometry: properties of shapes; position & direction. Statistics.		Number: number & place value; addition & subtraction; multiplication & division; fractions (including decimals & percentages). Measurement. Geometry: properties of shapes; position & direction. Statistics.	
Science	Earth & space	Forces	Properties & changes of materials	Living things & their habitats (Life cycles; reproduction in plant & animals)	Animals, including humans (Human development from birth to old age)	
Computing	We are game developers (Developing an interactive game)	We are cryptographers (Cracking codes)	We are artists (Fusing geometry and art)	We are web developers (Creating a website about safety)	We are architects (Creating a virtual space)	We are fundraisers (Charity fundraiser)
Religious Education	Myths & legends in the Bible; Harvest	Buddha	Prophets; Christmas	Buddhist meditation; Jataka tales; Sangha	Temptations; Jesus' miracles; Opposition to Jesus; Holy Week & Easter	Rescue Saints; Pilgrimage; St Albans Cathedral
Topic	Mission to Mars (Living in Space)	Anglo-saxons and Vikings	Making New Materials	Go with the flow (Rivers)	Making the News (Print, Broadcast and Online Journalism)	Building a village (Berkhamsted local history study)
French	Classroom	Weather; Breakfast	Body and Face	Domestic and wild animals; Easter	Food; likes and dislikes	Currency and shopping; time
PE	Multi-skills	Basketball	Gymnastics	Health-related exercise	Dance	Athletics
Games (Game On)	Tag rugby	Netball	Running skills	Football	Rounders	Tennis
Music	Musical Era: Early 20th Century (Holst: The Planets & Journey into Space)		Music Express: Who knows & Songwriter		Musical instrument: Ukulele	
Phonics/ Reading schemes	Pupils take part in a carousel of reading activities for 20 minutes each day. These include a range of independent tasks including spelling investigation, dictionary skills, sentence structure, vocabulary and comprehension activities. Each week every pupil has a guided reading session with the teacher. This involves the pupil reading a text with a focussed learning intention. Discussions take place around different genre, story structure, characterisation, comprehension and exploring inference with the text (hidden meanings).					