

Reminders for this term:

- Children can arrive at school from 8.40am. They walk into school via the door situated to the right of the school office entrance. Registration is completed at 8.55am Please ensure that your child is here on time every day.
- Every day is vital – please make sure that your child does not miss school unless they are seriously unwell. Holidays in term time are not permitted. Please let the school office know if your child is absent.
- If you have asked another adult to collect your child at the end of the day, you must inform the school office, as the class teacher will not let an unknown adult collect a child without verbal permission from the parent/carer.
- Our School Uniform is important – please make sure your child is wearing the correct clothes and shoes, and that they have the correct PE kit. **Please ensure that every item of your child's school uniform is named with a sewn on label or permanent pen.**
- PE lessons will take place on **Mondays and Tuesdays**. Please arrive in correct PE kit on these days. A change of clothes is not necessary.
- Your child will be set home learning every Friday. This will consist of pages from two CGP books as well as topic based homework via Google Classroom or Seesaw. The CGP books are not expected to be returned to school. Nonetheless, homework should still be completed. You will find the required weekly pages at the front of their CGP books. Please also ensure that your child completes their EdShed home learning assignments as these are vital for progress in spelling and times tables.
- Your child is expected to bring their reading record and book to school every day.
- It is vital that you take a few minutes to read with your child as often as possible. Your child will be bringing a reading book home to read daily, along with a reading diary for them to record comments about what they have read.
- We are always looking for ways to improve our school – please feel free to contact Miss Kelly at skelly@academy.thomas-s.co.uk if you have any ideas or suggestions.

Key Dates:

- 28th Jan: Break the Rules Day
- 1st February: Chinese New Year
- 7th- 11th February: Children's Mental Health Week
- 28th Feb- 4th March: Rec-Y6 Parents Meetings
- 3rd March: World Book Day
- 17th March: St Patrick's Day (Shamrock House can wear Green)
- 1st April- Last day of term (finish at 2pm)

Thomas's Academy Year 5 Topics, Spring



First there was the big bang! Then life began on Earth 3.8 billion years ago. But when did humans arrive and where did we come from? If we can find out the answer to these questions perhaps we can figure out where we are heading in the future...

What holds an empire together?
Perhaps it is faith – a belief in a single god or many different gods. Perhaps it is dependency – a need to work together and to help one another. Or perhaps it is leadership – strong individuals whose power and wisdom are admired. These bonds help to make empires strong. But the bigger they become, the more difficult they are to hold together...



The adults working in our class are:

Miss White – Class teacher Mrs James – Deputy Head (English support)
Mr Franks, Mr Fredericks and Mrs Garcia – Learning Support Assistants
You can speak to us at the end of each school day in the playground or you can contact us through the school office by calling 0207 736 2318 or by sending an email to y5@academy.thomas-s.co.uk

In our **Science** topic, we'll be finding out:

- How life began in the sea then came out of the sea
- How fossils provide information about living things from the past
- Why the dinosaurs died out
- About the classification of plants and animals
- How plants and animals reproduce
- How living things evolve and change over time
- How plants and animals are adapted to their environment
- How adaptation leads to evolution

What will we be learning?

Our **RE** focus this term is **Islam**

In **History**, we'll be finding out:

- What life was like in Britain in AD900
- Who were the Vikings?
- Differences between Britain in AD900 and a non-European society in AD900
- About the Maya from the buildings and artefacts they left behind
- How the Maya worshipped their gods
- How the Maya used glyphs for writing and counting
- Why the Maya empire declined

In **Spanish** we will be learning:

TOPIC 1: Telling the time

TOPIC 2: La comida We will be learning the names of different drinks and snacks, how to ask for them and pay in euros

TOPIC 3: los instrumentos

We will be learning the names of different instruments, saying which instruments you like/dislike and using the verb "tocar"

In **Art**, Year 5 will be working with textiles. They will look at prints from around the world and identify the similarities and differences that they find. Using what they discover they will create their own print designs and experiment with manipulating fabrics.

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.

In **English** we will be focusing on developing our spelling, punctuation and grammar skills through narrative and non-fiction writing.

- We will be working in SPAG groups 3 times a week to address gaps in understanding
- We will be participating in whole class reading sessions twice a week to continue developing our VIPERS skills (vocabulary, inference, prediction, explain, retrieval and summarise)
- We will be using the Anglo-Saxon legend 'Beowulf' to develop our descriptive writing, focusing on describing characters and using different writing techniques to improve the cohesion of our writing.

In **Maths** we will be covering the topics of fractions & decimals, angles, fractions & percentages and transformations.

- For fractions & decimals, pupils will focus on the equivalence of fractions and decimals. They will be introduced to numbers with up to three decimal places, extending to thousandths and relating them to tenths and hundredths.
- For angles, pupils will learn how to use a protractor to measure and draw angles in degrees. Pupils will identify that angles at a point total 360° and that angles at a point on a straight line total 180° .
- For fractions and percentages, pupils will calculate with fractions starting with addition and subtraction and moving on to multiplying a fraction and a whole number. They will come to understand that percentages, decimals and fractions are different ways of expressing proportions.
- For transformations, pupils will identify, describe and represent the position of a shape following a translation or a reflection and know that the shape has not changed.

In **Computing** we will be learning to:

- design, write and debug programs that accomplish specific goals, including controlling or simulating physical systems; solve problems by decomposing them into smaller parts
- use sequence, selection, and repetition in programs; work with variables and various forms of input and output
- use logical reasoning to explain how some simple algorithms work and to detect and correct errors in algorithms and programs

Character Curriculum

- Dreams and Goals
- Healthy Me

In **PE** we will be practising the skills and rules involved in the sports Football and Tennis.

Parent support in these lessons.

Do you work in a museum or gallery that would help bring our topics to life? If you have any skills or knowledge related to these topics that you would like to share, please do let me know!