

Dear parents/carers,

Firstly, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome the children back after the Easter break. With one term left to go until the Summer holidays we know that the children are very much prepared and ready to learn. We, as a team, are very proud of what has been produced so far from the children. We would like to thank you for your continuous support with: home learning, reading, homework, spelling and times table practise as this helps with your child's progression in school. We are all looking forward to another successful half term in which the children continue to mature socially and intellectually as we have some fantastic opportunities planned over the coming months!

Our cross-curricular topic this half term is very scientifically orientated. In this topic we will be looking at a range of species from all over the world as well as those found on our front doorstep. We will be learning about: interdependence and adaptation; investigating how the muscles and skeletal structure of the human body works; discovering how we combat infection and protect ourselves from disease as well as an array of activities that develop and value the children's fitness. This will be done using a range of media which will provide the children with a deeper understanding of how life across the globe has changed and evolved as well as, an understanding of the importance of a healthy diet and activity in today's computer driven world.

As always in Literacy, we will be continuing to focus on the key elements of good writing such as: sentence structure; punctuation; handwriting; developing vocabulary and grammar as well as spelling. We will be showing children how to assess and improve their own work according to learning objectives and success criteria. Guided reading sessions will be tailored to the needs of specific groups and individuals and, will continue to cover all assessment focuses. This term the children will be covering specific aspects of fables and traditional stories as well as script writing.

In Numeracy, children will continue to develop a range of skills in all areas of mathematics with a particular focus on counting and calculations. Mental maths and times tables tests will continue to take place each Friday and remain a fundamental part of learning. Homework will continue to be sent home in addition to the home learning log. This homework is intended to consolidate aspects of the curriculum taught in classrooms or prepare the children for up and coming topics. Please encourage your child to complete these tasks independently as this will again further enhance your child's learning whist in Year 5.

All members of the Year 5 team are willing to help with any queries or concerns you have throughout the half term so please feel free to put a note in your child's planner or call in to see us.

Kind regards,

Year 5 Team

Mr Henfield   Mr Wilkinson   Mr Hayward   Mrs Gracey   Mrs Hodgson

**Key Dates:**



# Year 5 'Living Things'

# Sumer 1

Tasks	Choice of Home Learning tasks.	Work completed?	Parent comment.	Teacher comment.
1	How many different living organisms can you find in your back garden? Record your findings in a table.			
2	Design (and build if you can) your own insect stating how and why that insect is adapted to it's environment.			
3	Choose a country. Research 3 different species that are native to that country.			
4	Create a fitness routine to music that can be used in our PE sessions as a warm up.			
5				
6				

## Topic: Living Things

### Note to parents

Dear Parents,

At the start of each half term the children will be given a home learning log like this one which they must keep for the duration of that half term. The home learning activities will be linked to the topic that the children are focussing on at that time and the activities will be carefully chosen to develop different skills in relation to a variety of curriculum subjects. The children will be able to chose the order in which they want to complete the activities. It is hoped that this will encourage the children to organise their time and to plan in advance so they can gather relevant materials to complete the art / design based tasks. There will be more home learning activities than there are number of weeks in that half term. It is hoped that this will allow the children to make independent choices about which tasks they would like to undertake. If the children bring in a piece of work **by Monday** of each week they will receive a merit to go on the class chart. Children can obtain merits for a number of reasons and they add up at the end of the school year and can be cashed in for prizes.

All home learning will be displayed in year group areas to allow the children to feel proud of the quality work that they have produced. We hope that this will create interest and give the children the opportunity to learn from others, as well as further reinforce just how much the children and staff value home learning in Norton Junior School. As you can see there is space for teacher and parent feedback for each home learning task to allow continued dialogue between home and school. We encourage you to comment on the task or the work that your child has produced.

We hope that parents and children find each of their half term tasks exciting and stimulating. As a school we fully encourage parental involvement with children's learning so, please continue to support and value them to continue their learning at home. We would like to thank you for your continued support and we look forward to another enjoyable half term.