

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Headteacher
Mrs S Stace
Tel: (01442) 862729
Fax: (01442) 874467
e-mail: admin@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk
www.westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk



Westfield Primary School
& Nursery
Durrants Lane
Berkhamsted
Herts. HP4 3PJ

Year 5 – Picasso - Autumn Newsletter

8th September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the start of the new school year. We hope you had a good summer break and are ready to embrace Year 5: Team Picasso!

Looking ahead, Picasso will encounter some exciting new topics throughout the year. During the Autumn Term we will be studying Ancient Greece and World War Two in History. The Science programme allows us to partake in investigations of the Properties and Changes of materials, and Forces. In PE this term we will be focusing on 'Invasion Games'; throughout the first half term. Children will need their PE kit available all week, for both PE slots and for any other PE sessions that may occur. An exciting addition to our learning this year comes in the form of ukulele lessons with an external music teacher. We look forward to the children performing for you later this year.

Mrs Turner and Ms Keegan are our brilliant teaching assistants and support our learning in Maths and English, and a lot more besides.

English, Maths or Topic homework will be set on **Friday** and should be handed in by the following **Wednesday**. These tasks will be linked in with the learning we have been doing during the week, or in preparation for future learning, and should take about 30 minutes each to complete. Spellings will be introduced every **Friday** and there will be a dictation and/or spelling test the following **Thursday**. Please support your children to practise these spellings and create sentences using these words.

Children will also be given 'Talk' homework every two weeks on a **Tuesday**. This will be a short discussion based on an area of our learning and is a way to help children generate ideas and vocabulary ready for the Big Write session. It only needs to be a five minute talk over dinner or in the car and has proven really beneficial, having a real impact on writing, so please allow the children this invaluable discussion time.

Children have each been given a Reading Record. This will be used to record their reading progress, in addition to being a means of communication between us, if necessary. Please try to read daily with your children and record these sessions in the reading record. Regular reading is as important as ever to develop fluency, understanding and expression in reading as well as improving writing vocabulary and style. We will begin a reading challenge; each time your child reads please log the text and genre in their reading record.

Year 5 pupils are permitted to have a mobile phone in school (if you wish) for safety reasons on their journeys to and from school. These should be clearly named and handed in to the class teacher each morning to be sent to the office, where they will be kept during the school day. At the end of the day they will be returned to the pupils. ***The school takes no responsibility for any loss or damage to pupil mobile phones. They are sent in at your own risk.*** Please note that if a phone is found in the classroom or in a pupil's possession during the school day it will be confiscated and a parent will need to collect it from the school office.

If your child is walking to and from school independently, could you please enforce road safety rules (including not walking whilst looking at phones) and ensure that they cross with the lollypop lady or using the lights.

We are always happy to deal with any questions or concerns you may have at the end of the school day so feel free to find me after school or contact us using the pink slip system at the office.

Team Picasso's Assembly will be on Friday 6th October. We look forward to seeing you there.

Kind Regards.

Mrs Banton, Mrs Turner and Ms Keegan