

# Engage, Enquire, Excel at Millfield

This curriculum newsletter provides you with an overview of the learning your child will undertake over the Autumn term

## Year 5

Welcome to Year 5! This year the Year 5 classes are taught by Miss Wright (5W) and Mrs Suter (5S). The children have had an excellent start to Year 5 and have returned from their summer holidays ready to learn. Our first Autumn term learning challenge is history based and we will explore ancient China and the lasting legacy of the first Chinese dynasties. In the second half of the Autumn term we will focus on Earth and Space. This science project will teach the children about our Solar System and its spherical celestial bodies.

### **Engagement and Enquiry through our Learning Challenge: Dynamic Dynasties: What was life like in ancient China?**

Throughout the first half of the Autumn term our main learning challenge will be history based as we learn about the history of ancient China, focusing mainly on the Shang Dynasty, and explore the lasting legacy of the first five Chinese dynasties. The children will understand different world history civilisations existed before, after and alongside others and be able to sequence and make connections between periods of world history on a timeline.

#### **KEY VOCABULARY:**

**ancestor, confucianism, composite, deity, imperial, oracle bones, ritual, sacrifice, shaman, smelt, tyrant, virtue**

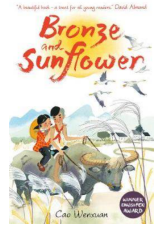
### **Engagement and Enquiry through our Learning Challenge: Earth and Space: Why do we have day and night?**

In the second half of the Autumn term we will learn about Earth and Space. This project teaches children about our Solar System and its spherical celestial bodies. They describe the movements of the Earth and the other planets relative to the Sun, the Moon relative to Earth, and the Earth's rotation to explain day and night.

**KEY VOCABULARY: Solar system, phases of the moon, Sun, Earth, spherical bodies, planet, rotation, axis**

### English

In our reading lessons, we will study the text *Bronze and Sunflower* by Cao Wenxuan in which a young girl called Sunflower has moved to the countryside in China. As her father works all day, Sunflower feels lonely. She watches the river and the people across it who live in a village called Damaidi. Then she meets a boy called Bronze and the two become good friends. When a tragic event brings Sunflower into Bronze's home, the two children must work together to survive the hardships of village life. In English, the children will write diary entries from the perspective of characters in the text. They will also read traditional Chinese stories and write detailed character descriptions. In the second half term we will study a range of nonfiction texts about Earth and Space. This will include *A Galaxy of Her Own: Amazing Stories of Women in Space* by Libby Jackson. The children will write newspaper reports about the discovery of a new planet and biographies. This term we will revise the grammar previously taught before introducing the Year 5 content and we will focus on learning the Year 5/6 statutory spelling words.



### Maths

Maths this term will focus on the understanding of numbers to 1 million and applying this knowledge to a variety of contexts. We will learn to compare and order numbers within 1 million and round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. Following this we reinforce addition and subtraction formal methods with a focus on problem solving using these skills. Formal written methods are further explored for Multiplication and Division. The final area of maths we study in the Autumn term is Fractions.

### Other subjects within the wider curriculum:

**Science:** This term we will learn about the forces of gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction, with the children exploring their effects. Following this, we will learn about Earth and Space.

**Geography:** We will learn about locating map features using a range of methods. They will learn about the Prime Meridian, Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), and worldwide time zones and study interconnected climate zones, vegetation belts and biomes.

**Religious Education (RE):** This term we will focus on Buddhism and learn about the Eightfold Path and why Buddhists celebrate Dharma day.

**Art:** Tints, tones and shades in relation to landscapes.

**PE:** Dance and tag rugby in the first half term and football and gymnastics in the second half term.

**Design and Technology (DT):** Pneumatic systems.

**Computing:** Game developing and coding.

**PSHE:** Beginning and belonging, working together and anti-bullying.

**Music:** Melody and harmony in music.

**French:** The Children will continue to build on their knowledge from Y4 and learn to hold longer conversations. They will learn numbers to 20 and consolidate their knowledge of colours and the names of animals.

**Useful Information**

Home Learning: Will be set weekly on a Friday and spellings will be tested the following Wednesday. A homework grid will be sent home with a variety of tasks for the children to complete over the term. All children should read daily (20 mins minimum) to develop skills and build stamina.

PE kit: Usually on Tuesday and Thursday for both classes although this may change so kits should be in school all week if possible. Children need shorts, jogging bottoms / leggings, t-shirt, jumper/hoody and suitable footwear. Earrings cannot be worn for PE, so children must be able to remove their own if they are worn. All other jewellery must also be removed.

**Websites that may be useful**

[NSPCC](#) Keeping your child safe, also excellent source of information for children on a range of issues including peer pressure, relationships and keeping themselves safe

[Thinkuknow](#) Keeping safe online for children and young people as well as parents

[Home - BBC Bitesize](#) Support for all subjects including maths and English

[Topmarks](#) Great games like Hit the Button and Bingo for maths practise

[Cambridgeshire Libraries](#) A wealth of books for you to borrow and we are lucky to have a library in Littleport

[KS2 Maths - 65 Enjoyable Quizzes for Children aged 7 to 11](#) Self marking quizzes for maths

[Spellings MENU - Key Stage 2 Literacy](#) Spelling games

[Spelling games, tests and activities](#) Spelling games