

18th September 2017

Dear Year 5 Children and Parents,

Welcome back.... I hope you have all had a fun filled and relaxing summer and are ready for the year ahead.

As I am new to the school - let me introduce myself. My name is Jenny Harding and I have had many years of teaching experience. I have recently moved to Dorset from Milton Keynes with my husband and dog and we are all enjoying living by the coast.

Year 5 is the beginning of Upper Key Stage 2 so we will be building on the work done before and beginning some of the work needed for Y6. As such, the children will be expected to become more independent so that they can do their very best. It will be busy, exciting and I hope lots of fun.

This year we are very lucky to have Mrs. Smith, our teaching assistant, working alongside us, Mr Brown will be teaching some of the RE this term and we are also lucky enough to have some time with Deacon Geoffrey each week.

Topic.

Our topic for the first term is World War II and will be based on the book 'Goodnight Mr. Tom' by Michelle Magorian. We will be looking at the beginning of the war, including the Allied and Axis powers, the causes of the war and the evacuation of the children. Later on we will be finding out about rationing and air raids. We will be making gas mask boxes and evacuation labels. I am also hoping to organise a trip to find out more about the Home Front during the war.

Homework explained.

Homework will be set on a Wednesday and due in on the following Monday. The children are, of course, able to bring it in earlier if they have done it.

There will be a piece of maths work and a piece of English work both of which will link to what we have been learning during the week. Every so often, a piece of Topic homework may be set which could be more creative. If this is the case, then more time will be given for the children to complete it.

In addition to this, the children will be given a set of spellings to learn each week and they will be tested on these on a Thursday.

Reading is ongoing and the children are expected to read to an adult as regularly as possible. Please make sure that their reading records are signed and encourage your child to remember to change their books regularly.

The children have a purple homework book to complete their work in. Please feel free to add any comments in here especially if your child has found the work particularly challenging or far too easy. This will help me to plan the next piece of work and address any issues as they arise.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. A "Meet the Teacher" afternoon has been planned for this term. During this session I will be available for an informal chat and it would be great to meet you all.

I am very much looking forward to this year and getting to know the children.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Harding