

Dear Parents

Welcome back to a new academic year at Berrywood. I am very excited to be leading the Year 5 team for this school year. We have some engaging and creative learning planned for the year ahead and are keen to start the Autumn term with a new history based project – ‘Eat Your Way Through the Past’ – which will take a look at how and why the food we eat has changed over the past 1000 years. The children enjoyed our ‘hook’ day where we did a blindfolded food-tasting challenge, trying some foods from the past and present. We will end the project with our celebration event, in the morning of Thursday 28th November, where you will have the opportunity to question the children about their learning.

As you know, we are fortunate to have the ‘Young Shakespeare Company’ visiting year 5 on Tuesday 24th September. They will be performing extracts from ‘Macbeth’ which will introduce this play that the children will continue to study in English.

Our spring project is ‘Lost in Space’. To introduce this science-based project we will be visiting the Winchester Science Centre on Wednesday 8th January. The children will take part in a space workshop with activities designed and led by members of the education team. We will also watch a live, presenter-led show; ‘Discover: Destination Space’ in the planetarium. The celebration date for this project will be decided nearer the time.

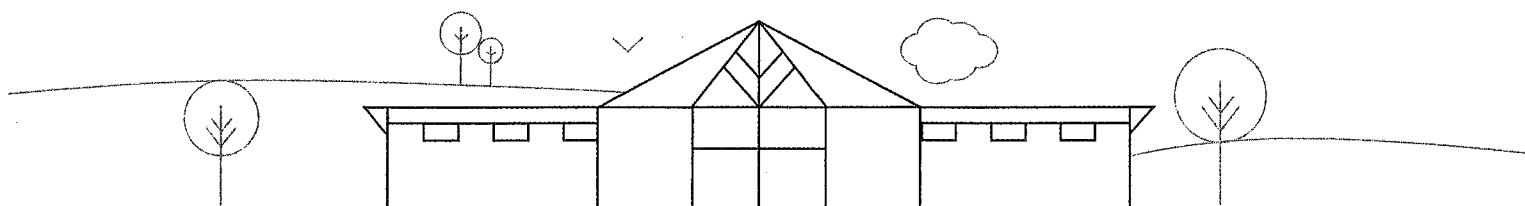
Our final project, ‘What on Earth’, is geography-based. The children’s project work will develop their geography fieldwork skills as they learn about rivers and erosion. This project is an opportunity for the children to discover and research some important global issues surrounding the production of plastic. The celebration date for this final project will be decided nearer the time.

Throughout the year, we will be encouraging the children to become ever more independent. This might mean, for some of the children, that you allow them to walk to and from school with friends and that they might not always have a parent or adult pick them up from the classroom at the end of the day. We will allow the children to leave independently at home-time, and trust that you have made arrangements with them. May we also take this opportunity to remind you that if your child brings a phone to school, it must be switched off when coming into school and remain in their bags during the day. The teachers will not be taking any responsibilities for, or be able to look after, any phones.

The children will have their spelling test and times tables test and be given new spellings and times table focus on a Thursday. Please do take the time to discuss the ‘rule’ or ‘pattern’ with your child, as well as learning the list brought home.

Homework will be given out fortnightly on a Thursday. It will be either Maths, English or project-based. Please return homework by Tuesday the week after. This means the children have 12 days to complete their homework.

PE lessons this half term will be on a Wednesday (outdoor) and a Friday (indoor). PE lessons will change days next half term. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school every day.



Each year 5 class displays relevant information in their windows. Please do check this for any reminders or dates. Communications can be made, as always, on 'Class Dojo'. There will also be, of course, the usual communications: emails, letters, newsletters, Twitter and don't forget to check the website.

Finally, we would like to thank you in advance for your support. We are very much looking forward to an exciting year ahead of learning and discovery, working together with you and your children.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Brown
Year 5 Team Leader



Mrs A Pitter
Year 5 Class Teacher



Mr K Roy
Year 5 Class Teacher



Miss C Wareham
Year 5 Class Teacher