



# Year 5 Autumn 2 Newsletter



## Coming up in Autumn 2

### A Beacon of Light

For the start of this half term, we will begin learning about Islamic civilization during the so called 'dark ages' and the advances in science and medicine that took place at this time. The children will be creating drawings of Islamic buildings in Art, with a focus on the direction of light and how we can make our sketches more realistic.



We will answer the question: **Was the early Islamic Civilisation a 'beacon of light' in the Dark Ages?**

### Out of this World

We cannot wait to blast off into outer space and learn all about our Solar System. The children will research using different non-fiction sources to learn about planets in our Solar System, and then apply what they have learned to create their own planet. They will then write a fact-filled non-chronological report on their planet. In Science, we will be investigating the universe and this will include a trip to the Chichester South Downs Planetarium in November.



We will answer the question: **Are our resources being wasted on 'visits' to space?**

**Thank you for your continued support  
Year 5 Team**

**Our English learning** will include writing non-chronological reports to include relative clauses (linked to our Science learning). The children will be drafting these reports by using further organisational and presentational devices to structure text and to guide the reader, for example, headings, bullet points, underlining etc.

**Our Mathematics learning** will include learning a range of mental and formal methods to solve addition and subtraction calculations and problems, before later on in the half term, moving on to multiplication and division. The children will be using the four operations in different contexts, and understanding how inverse can help them check their answers.

**Our Personal and Development Learning (SCARF)** unit is: **Keeping Myself Safe**



The Key learning points are:

- What a 'habit' is
- Legal and illegal harmful substances
- Positive and negative risks and assessing risks
- What 'dares' are
- Recognising what bullying is, both face-to-face and online
- How to protect ourselves and our information when online

We will also discuss issues raised by Anti-bullying Wee

### Year 5 Messages

Please ensure children have a warm PE kit (black joggers and black sweatshirt) for outdoor PE on Mondays.



How you can **support your child's learning at home**



Supporting your child to complete their Home Learning each week is one of the best ways that you can help from home. Each week's Home Learning (whether it is Maths or Spelling based) will help them to remember key number facts and spelling rules. We also can't stress the importance of daily reading; this could be with an adult or simply reading by themselves for pleasure!

Other ways that you can support your child are by encouraging them to practise multiplication and division facts for all times tables.

Can your child recall any facts within 5 seconds? If they are struggling with this, regular practise on games like 'HIT THE BUTTON' online can really help memory recall (a score of 20+ is a good benchmark).

If you would like to, this is a great chance to explore more about the Golden Islamic Age.

### Dates for your Year 5 diary

Our Islamic visitor will be visiting to discuss the concept of 'belonging' in Islam on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November** to support us with our RE learning.



We will also be going on a school trip to the **Chichester and South Downs Planetarium on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023.**

Details will follow.

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** – KS2 Christmas Performance

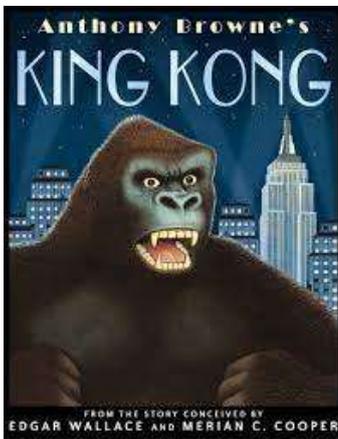
Find out about the wonderful learning we did in Autumn 1 on the next page...

## Our Learning in Autumn 1

### The Big Apple

We started the year off by travelling to 'The Big Apple' where children deepened their understanding of North America and in particular, New York City, with the similarities and differences to our own big cities in the UK. We took a tour of New York by following a **landmark trail** in our grounds.

Landmark name	Landmark photo	Human or Physical	Description
Central park		P ✓	A large and important park in New York City. It has a zoo, an ice-skating rink, three small lakes, an open-air theatre, playing fields, children's playgrounds and several fountains. The park has lots of footpaths and bicycle paths and several roadways going through it.
Madison Square Garden		H ✓	A multi-purpose indoor arena in New York City. It is used for professional ice hockey and basketball, as well as boxing, concerts, ice shows, circuses, professional wrestling and other forms of sports and entertainment.



Anthony Browne's book about King Kong inspired our **writing**. We began by exploring powerful descriptive language such as adjectives and verbs before moving on to figurative language! The children came up with some great similes and metaphors - which they used effectively to describe King Kong in their final pieces of writing. What a character!

We also looked at Isaac Newton and his important discovery of gravity, which will be integral to our **understanding of forces**. The children really enjoyed experimenting and investigating gravity and how it affects us in every moment of our lives! They became more confident using Newton meters and recording measurements in a table. There were lots of opportunities for fun with hands on investigations! Running with umbrellas proved particularly memorable!



When I ran across the playground with a small umbrella I could feel a bit more air resistance and it made me a bit more slower than I was when I wasn't holding a umbrella while I was running.

