



St. Matthew's C of E Primary School
Church Road
Cainscross
Stroud
Glos GL5 4JE
Tel/Fax: 01453 764705
E-mail: head@st-matthews.dgat.org.uk
www.st-matthews.gloucs.sch.uk



Executive Head Teacher: Mrs Kelly Osborne-James

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well and that your child is excited to embark on another school year. I am delighted to welcome both you and your child to Year 5, a year full of exciting learning opportunities and new adventures.

This year, we have an engaging curriculum planned, with topics that are sure to capture your child's imagination and curiosity. Our main themes for the year will be:

Autumn term - The Space Race

We will explore the fascinating history of space exploration, focusing on the competition between the USA and the Soviet Union to reach space and land on the Moon. This topic will involve a mix of history, science, and technology, as we learn about the key events and figures who shaped this extraordinary period.

Spring term - The Ancient Egyptians

In this unit, we will delve into the world of pyramids, pharaohs, and hieroglyphics. Your child will learn about the rich culture, religion, and daily life of ancient Egypt, along with its many contributions to civilization.

Summer term - Vikings and Anglo-Saxons

We will study the impact of the Viking invasions on Britain, the life of the Anglo-Saxons, and how these two cultures influenced the history of our country. This topic will include a mix of history, geography, and literature, as we explore stories from the time and the legacy these peoples left behind.

In addition to these exciting topics, I want to emphasise the importance of reading. Reading is not only fundamental to your child's success in school, but it also opens a world of imagination and knowledge. I encourage your child to read daily, whether it's a book from home or one borrowed from the school. Your support in fostering a love of reading at home is invaluable, and we will work together to ensure your child develops strong reading habits. Please make a comment in your child's reading record every time you hear them read. Reading records will be checked weekly and books will be changed when needed.

Regarding homework, it will be set every Wednesday and will need to be completed and returned by the following Monday. There will be 8 weekly spellings incorporating the rules of the week and a piece of maths homework that will consolidate learning in class. Consistent times table practice at home will provide your child a solid foundation that will benefit them throughout their education. Your child is expected to access Times Table Rock Stars frequently to improve their confidence, speed and accuracy. Please encourage your child to complete their homework to a high standard. It is expected that children will carefully consider their presentation when completing their tasks and use a writing pencil or biro pen. Please encourage your child to complete their homework on time, as this will help them stay on track with their learning.

PE will take place every Monday and Friday. PE kits should be worn on both these days. Don't forget a tracksuit or jumper especially on colder days. Please ensure hair is tied back on these days.

Thank you for your continued support. I am looking forward to a fantastic year of learning, growth, and achievement for your child. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes,
Miss Ward