

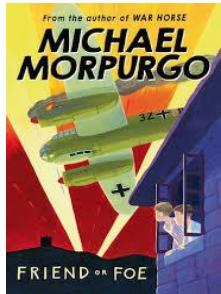
Spring Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year and welcome you and your children back to Year 5. We have already had the most amazing start to Year 5 and we know that the upcoming term is going to be fabulous with lots of wonderful learning opportunities ahead of us.

English



This term in English we are reading *Friend or Foe*; this is a novel set during World War II. It follows two London evacuees, David and Tucky, who are sent to the countryside. Whilst there, they discover a crashed German bomber in the countryside and must decide whether the enemy airmen are friends or foes after one of them saves David's life. This unit will give the children the chance to use their argumentative side to create a balanced argument and decide if David and Tucky should help the German soldiers.

In our Reading sessions, we will be reading 'The Good Thieves' by Katherine Rundell. In this text we meet Vita: her beloved grandfather Jack has been cheated out of his home and possessions by a notorious conman with Mafia connections. Seeing Jack's spirit is broken, Vita is desperate to make him happy again so she devises a plan to outwit his enemies and recover his home.

The children's library day will be on a Thursday so could you please make sure they are reading at home and reading diaries are signed and books returned on a Thursday to be checked and changed.

Maths

We will start the term by looking at fractions which will include the following areas:

- Dividing to make fractions
- Writing improper fractions and mixed numbers
- Finding equivalent fractions
- Comparing and ordering fractions, mixed numbers and improper fractions
- Adding and subtracting fractions
- Multiplying fractions by whole numbers

Curriculum Theme



For the first half term, we will continue with the theme 'Around the world'. Pupils will learn about the topography, climate and landmarks of European countries through independent research and apply similar research to North America, Australia and other key locations around the world. This will allow them to understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of both human and physical features and make comparisons using a variety of sources, including maps, photographs, video footage and data.

After half term, we will start our new theme about 'Climate Change' where we will explore the Green House Effect and what can be done to reduce Global Warming.

Other subjects at a glance:

Science – In this unit, children will learn about the properties of changing materials. Spring term we will be looking at two scientist's Barbra McClintock and Kusala Rajendram.

Music – This term, the children will continue their music journey with our designated music teacher.

French – The unit, that the children are learning how to tell the days, weeks and months of the year in French.

PD – We will be following our No Outsiders units starting with caring relationships.

Useful websites

www.hightersheath.excelsiormat.org

[KS2 - England - BBC Bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ks2/bitesize)

Important Dates for this term

Thursday 29th January 2025 – Birmingham Mosque visit

Final Notices!

PE day is Monday and Friday. Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school on those days. Earrings are to be removed or not to be worn on PE days and long hair needs to be tied back.

Homework – this will be sent out on Friday and needs to be returned by Tuesday.

If you have any queries, concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to ask. Please phone the school office or email: enquiry@hightersheath.excelsiormat.org

I hope that this year will be an exciting, enriching and rewarding year for everybody in Year 5 and I very much hope that you will join us in helping to make this happen.

Best wishes and thank you in anticipation for your continued support,

Miss Vigers and Mrs Sharif