

September 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to school and the 'new' school year. Well done to all the children who have settled so well into their new classes and new routines. They have quickly risen to the challenge of hard work, concentration and a positive attitude to learning. Thank you for supporting your children so well at the start of this term.

We are writing to share with you an overview of the topics that your child will be learning in the first half of the Autumn term in Years 5 and 6. At Castle Park, we value the important partnership between home and school. Please use the information below to support your child with their learning over the coming weeks.

Thank you for the effort that is put into reading with your child at home. This is the key to developing skills across the curriculum and the more you can do, the more your child will be able to improve the speed and depth with which they learn. Remember to talk to your child about what they are reading as well as listening to them – the type of questions that need an explanation should be combined with fact finding questions.

We expect all children to have a go at their Friday Challenges and are happy if family members help children complete the challenge they have selected.

If you have any questions about the information below, please feel free to make contact through ClassDojo or email the school office [admin@castle-parkcumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@castle-parkcumbria.sch.uk).

Thank you for your continuing support.

*The Upper Key Stage Two Team*

<b>Curriculum area</b>	<b>Topics, ideas and skills for development this half term.</b>	<b>Homework ideas linked to the curriculum areas.</b>
<b>English</b> 	Recounts  Spelling and grammar work – emphasising sentence construction and catch-up work on basic grammar  Researching and re-presenting information	Your child will still be expected to read for at least 15 minutes each evening. You can also help your child by discussing what they have read.  They will receive spellings to learn each week. These will be tested on Fridays.
<b>Mathematics</b> 	Place Value  Decimals  Addition and subtraction	All Year 5 and 6 children are expected to aim to recall times tables facts to 12 in 3 seconds or less.
<b>Science</b> 	Using and Applying Science	We will be carrying out a series of experiments and talking about how we can limit the variables to make a test fair.  Try a fun experiment at home, for example, which biscuit is the best for dunking?

<p><b>History</b></p> 	<p>The 1970s, 1980s and 1990s</p>	<p>We would greatly appreciate any photos of family members that show fashions from the 70s, 80s and 90s. We will be using them to create a display so don't be shy!</p>
<p><b>Art and Design</b></p> 	<p>Kente patterns Weaving and art in the style of African Kente patterns</p>	<p>Research these beautiful patterns and have a go at drawing a repeated pattern in the same style.</p>
<p><b>PE</b></p> 	<p>Agility and fitness – indoor Lacrosse - outdoor</p>	<p>Please make sure your child has our school P.E. kit: black or blue shorts and a plain white t-shirt. If children are wearing leggings, they should be sports style and lycra, not cotton fashion leggings. P.E. will be on Monday and Friday for Mr Svatin's class and Tuesday and Friday for Mrs McNeil's and Miss Breeze's class.</p>
<p><b>Music</b></p> 	<p>Classic Rock Composing and improvisation using instruments.</p>	<p>Listen to the track we will be studying: 'Livin' on a Prayer' by Bon Jovi.</p>
<p><b>RE</b></p> 	<p>Why are religious texts important and what can we learn from them?</p>	<p>Research the names of religious texts linked to different faiths.</p>
<p><b>IT and Computing</b></p> 	<p>Internet Safety</p>	<p>Talk to your child about the issues linked with internet safety and visit the CEOP site <a href="https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/">https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/</a></p>
<p><b>Global Awareness</b></p> 	<p>Classes will be regularly watching a child-friendly 60 second news update and then talking about the issues raised.</p>	<p>Ask your child about what's going on in the world and what has been discussed in class.</p>
<p><b>Citizenship</b></p> 	<p>Wellbeing and mental health during a pandemic.</p>	<p>We know that this is a concern we all share and appreciate your support by talking to the children at home about any worries they may have.</p>

**Dates for your diary:**

**25/9/20 European Day of Languages** – UKS2 are studying the Japanese language and culture and children are encouraged to come to school dressed in the colours of the Japanese flag (red and white).

Date to be arranged: **Parent Consultation Evenings** (this will involve changes to our usual arrangements to mitigate the effects of Covid-19 and you will receive details of this nearer the time).