

November 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are writing to share with you an overview of the topics that your child will be learning in the second 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. These can also be sent to your class teacher via ClassDojo.

If you have any questions about the information below, please contact the school through the office or ClassDojo as we are currently unable to hold face to face meetings.

Thank you for your continuing support.

The Upper Key Stage Two Team

Curriculum area	Topics, ideas and skills for development this half term.	Homework ideas linked to the curriculum areas.
English 	Biographies and Autobiographies Spelling and grammar work – emphasising word classes (adjectives, verbs etc.) Introducing suspense into writing Learning poetry by heart	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 be receiving spellings each week. These will be tested on Friday.
Mathematics 	Multiplying and division Addition and subtraction written problems Handling data Fractions	Your child will have a 'Times Table Rockstars' login. Please encourage them to use this exciting free programme as much as possible. We will be monitoring their progress at school.
Science 	Earth, Sun and Moon	Observe the changing phases of the moon and make a picture diary or flip book.

Geography 	Weather and Climate	Research and create a 'weather extremes' factfile to show the coldest, hottest, wettest and windiest places on Earth.
Art and Design 	Designing a balloon powered rocket? Marks awarded for attractiveness, design quality and distance travelled	Investigate rocket designs through history.
PE 	Hip Hop and Street Dance – indoor Field Hockey - outdoor	Please make sure your child has our school P.E. kit: black or blue shorts and a plain white t-shirt. P.E will be on Monday and Friday for Mr Svatins class and Tuesday and Friday for Mrs McNeil and Miss Breeze's class.
Music 	Boomwhackers Study of pitch and rhythm Christmas songs	Video yourself playing a drum solo on things you can find in the kitchen. Send it to us on ClassDojo.
RE 	In what way is the geography of the nativity story still of relevance today?	Go to http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/find_out/guides/world/middle_east/ For an impartial, child-friendly summary of Middle-Eastern politics.
ICT and Computing 	Code Bugs – debugging a line of code	Visit the code bug website and use the emulator.
Global Awareness 	How is the population of the world affected by climate and climate change?	https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/45880639 A 90 second explanation of the science behind climate change.
Citizenship 	How can we appreciate what we have and looking after others within COVID restrictions?	Look for ways that you can support good causes in our area and globally.

Reminders:

- **The new Friday Challenges sheet will be coming home this Friday (6/11) and will also be posted on ClassDojo. We are happy for children to send pictures of their work to us via ClassDojo.**
- **In the event of a school closure, Clas Dojo will be our best means of communicating with children and setting tasks so we are keen that all parents download the app and make themselves familiar with its simple features.**
- **We would encourage parents to drop children off at the school gates at the moment to limit the possibility of COVID 19 infection.**