

**Dear Parents,**

We are halfway through the School year! Spring is around the corner and we are looking forward to all it brings.

Our creative topic this term will focus on habitats, examining habitats and lifecycles and how a changing environment has had an effect on this.

The focus of our literacy lessons this term will start with the story of The Wild Robot by Peter Brown. We will be complementing this with free story writing using the stimulus of pictures and initial modelled paragraphs. Our non-fiction will be a non-chronological report all about a wild robot.

I plan to give out a range of topic tasks as an optional piece of homework. In addition to this, the children must please learn their times tables. In order to successfully complete Year 5 maths curriculum, children are expected to know their times tables facts up to  $12 \times 12$ . We continue to focus on times tables as these form the basis for such a lot of our maths work including multiplication, division and fractions – we are doing all of these this term. Please also encourage your child to access Manga High for additional maths games and fun.

In Science we will study human reproduction and ageing. In PSHE we will look at our rights as children and our responsibilities to ourselves and others.

If you, or a family member, would like to help the class by listening to children read, it would be much appreciated. An hour per week can make such a difference. Thank you to those of you who give up your time – you are valued by us and by the children.

If you have any concerns about your child's learning, please do not hesitate in coming to see me. Alternatively, you can email me at [jsinclair@cameverlands.org.uk](mailto:jsinclair@cameverlands.org.uk)

As always, your support of us in the home is very much appreciated and these are some of the ways in which you can help your child this year:-

Continuing to read 5 times per week with your child – as you read together, discuss the story, the characters and try to guess what happens next, what the characters are feeling, if you can identify with the character and how you would behave in a similar situation. This all helps to enrich the reading experience. Your child should write a sentence about their reading in their contact book. This will then be marked as a read.

Please continue to use Spelling Shed to improve skills of spellings in fun ways. Also the White Rose app detailed on my class page is great fun and only takes a minute each game! This will also help to practise times tables up to  $12 \times 12$  and the corresponding division facts.

In literacy, we will revise comprehension, grammar and spelling activities as well as up-levelling creative writing. The children will focus on stories from famous authors and study characters. Our non-fiction unit will be writing a report. Many children still find punctuation difficult, so we will be concentrating on correct use of full stops, capital letters and commas for phrasing, in addition to the Year 5 requirements.

In Numeracy, we will concentrate this term on decimals and percentages, then perimeter and area, followed by statistics. This will be done from a problem solving/life skills base.

Our PE this term is tag rugby. This will happen on Fridays and for the other PE session, on Thursday, we will be practising moving like Greek gods. Please could you make sure PE kit is complete and labelled. It should consist of Jogging Bottoms, Shorts, t-shirt, sweatshirt and trainers/daps and two pairs of socks. In case of extra fitness opportunities, please make sure your extra socks are in all week.

In RE we will be studying the question, "Why is the Torah so important to Jewish people?" and will be continuing to consider all religions as a comparison in order to achieve a broad outlook.

### Some robot facts

7 Fun Facts:-

1. The first ever robot was built in the 5<sup>th</sup> Century BC by Archytas. It was a mechanical dove.
2. The first humanoid robot was built in 1939 by Westinghouse and was called Elektro. It was 7 foot tall and could say 700 words from vinyl records installed in it.
3. The word robot is from the Czech word robota, which means drudgery. Robots do the work that no-one wants to do.
4. Today there are over 1 million robots in use – half of these are in Japan. They are used for lots of different things including car assembly but are equally used to do the dangerous things that humans are unable to do easily.
5. The firm I-robot has sold over 2 million robotic vacuum cleaners that use infrared sensors.
6. A robotics laboratory in the UK uses bacterial waste to power their robots – this includes rotten apples or dead flies.
7. A cybernetics Professor, Kevin Warwick, calls himself the world's first cyborg which means he is half human, half robot. He has computer chips in his cybernetic arm which he can use to remotely operate doors and his own electronic wheelchair.



## Information for Parents

Year 5  
2024 - 2025  
Term 4



