



Year 5 Newsletter—Summer 1



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Dear Parents,
 Welcome back after the Easter break!
Please take time to read the newsletter with your child and keep it in a safe place.

Pen Licence

This term we are focusing on raising the standards of presentation in the children's book and folders. In order to encourage pupils to try hard with their handwriting and presentation in all subjects, a pen licence will be awarded to pupils who meet the criteria. This is a very special achievement! The pupils will receive a pen licence in the form of a certificate and a brand new handwriting pen. They must continue to maintain the high standard of presentation as their pen license can be taken away at any time. Pupils will receive 2 free handwriting pens each school year and then after that we ask for a small fee of 40p to purchase a new one.

We are also encouraging children to apply cursive script when completing their homework and would appreciate your support with this at home. Below are the letter joins and capital letters used at Old Palace and an example.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

after loft raft often

Trips
Bank
of
Eng-
land -

Wednesday 16th May
 Royal Wedding Picnic - Friday 18th May
 Bore Place Farm - Wednesday 23rd May
Please ensure the children bring an extra pair of shoes that you don't mind getting muddy or wellies.



For more information about these topics and resources such as websites check out our frog page at oldpalace-towerhamlets.frogos.net (do not include www.)

Homework

In year 5 homework will be given to the children every **Thursday** and should be returned on **Wednesday**.

Reading – please ensure that your child reads for 30 minutes every day. Talk to them about what they have read and ask some questions. For example re-tell the story, how did the author create suspense? What emotive language was used?

English & Maths activity—each week your child will receive an activity to complete please ensure your child spends at least 20 minutes a day on either.

Spellings, Times tables & Mental Maths - The children will be tested weekly. Please ensure your child learns these at home.

Research projects

Our science topic this half-term is about plants and habitats. For the research project, children will be investigating a particular habitat and what it is like. They will need to choose one particular habitat to research on. They will present this in the form of a:

- Topic box - Create a habitat in a shoe box.
- Encyclopaedia article - Fact sheet all about their chosen habitat/plant.
- PowerPoint presentation—Include pictures, text and some sound effects.

Children can use:

- Book from the school library.
- Books you have at home or from the public library.
- Documentaries that you have seen on television (such as National Geographic channel).
- The internet.

Websites include:-

- www.askkids.com (to search the internet)
- <http://primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/habitats.html>
- <http://edtech.kennesaw.edu/web/habitats.html>

For more information please see the school frog page. (See above)



Ideas on how to support your child's learning at home.

English:

Instruction manual

In this unit they will build on their understanding of instructions by exploring instruction manuals, which contain general guidance, as well as a range of instructions for specific projects. The children will write an instruction manual linked to their Science unit; a manual on how to grow fruit & vegetables. To help your child in the home, show your children some examples of instructions e.g. recipes. Ask your child to identify the language features e.g. time connectives (first, next then), verbs (cut, chop) and the organizational features e.g. photographs and ask about their purpose.

Humour stories

In this unit the children will explore how authors, such as Roald Dahl, David Walliams, Jacqueline Wilson & Jeremy Strong create humour using very different styles of writing. They will explore how comedy characters are created and how implausible, exaggerated or carefully observed events can be used to create humour. The unit links with the Science work on life-cycles and also supports PHSE work on families and growing up. The novels have been chosen to reflect different types of families, which culturally may be less familiar to the children, thus allowing them to explore what is an 'ordinary family'. To help our child visit the school library and ask your child to read: **Lily Alone, Bed & Breakfast Star, Gangsta Granny or Billionaire Boy** and ask your child to write down what made them laugh and why.

Maths:

Securing number facts—understanding fractions, decimals and percentages.

Try out these activities to help you child at home.

Guess my number

Choose a number between 0 and 1 with one decimal place, e.g. 0.6.

Challenge your child to ask you questions to guess your number. You may only answer 'Yes' or 'No'. For example, he could ask questions like 'Is it less than a half?'

See if he can guess your number in fewer than 5 questions.

Now let your child choose a mystery number for you to guess.

Extend the game by choosing a number with one decimal place between 1 and 10, e.g. 3.6. You may need more questions!

Times tables

Ask your child a different times-table fact every day,

e.g. What is 6 times 8? Can you use this to work out 12 x 8?

and: What is 48 divided by 6?

Topic Maths: Statistics.

Which parts of the world do fruit/veg in the supermarket come from? The children will follow this line of enquiry and look at information about this presented in tables and answer questions.

Science: The children will be learning about different lifecycles of both animals and plants as well as what habitats they can be found in. They will then learn about the concept of food miles, where different foods come from and when they are in season.

They will also have the opportunity to become gardeners and will plant a variety of vegetables around the school and make weekly observations. The unit will end with the children learning about puberty and how the human body changes during this time. **(Please see your class teacher if you wish to withdraw your child from this lesson).**

RE: What do religions say to us when life gets hard?

In this unit pupils learn in depth from different religious and spiritual ways of life about teaching about hard times. Many of the children will have experienced grief or loss in some way. This unit allows them to talk about these ideas when emotions are less raw and how best to deal with them.

P.E : Tennis and Fitness

The children will be taught various skills needed to play tennis such as being able to hold the racket correctly, and hitting the ball with control and accuracy.

PSHE: Be respectful

This half term the children will be looking at what makes them special and unique. They will be identifying and celebrating similarities and differences such as race, religion and gender within their class.

Computing: The children will be using sketch up to create a 3D name tag. In order to do so, they will be exploring the different functions available e.g. camera view, eraser, orbit etc.