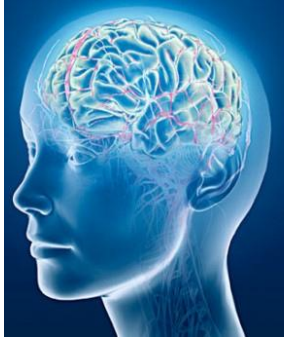




Year 5 Newsletter - Term 1.1 2019/20

Ms Downes and Ms Louise

Topics: Brainwave & Space Explorers



Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year Five!

We'll be covering lots of exciting topics this year, beginning this half term with Brainwave, followed by Space Explorers.

We're looking forward to our first year in Year Five at Charter and to meeting as many of you as possible at the Primary Parents' Open House after school on Thursday 22nd August.

Please also make a note of our mail addresses, rdownes@charter.ac.th and lstout@charter.ac.th if you ever need to contact us.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Thursday 22nd August:
Primary Parents' Open House.

14th October: Public holiday (school closed).

21st-25th October:
Half Term Break.

Any other important dates will be shared during the term.

English

In Term 1.1 we will study various text types related to our topics whenever possible.

In English, we will begin the year with a unit on recounts. Through this unit, we will work on producing different text types and focus on using descriptive language, connectives and tense. The children will also explore different sentence structures and types of punctuation.

Based on the 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes, the class will then look at journalistic texts and writing, looking at using different layouts, features of newspaper articles and exploring more adventurous vocabulary. We will then move onto a unit based on biographies and autobiographies. The children will study a variety of these text types, identifying their features and structures, before researching, drafting and writing their own biography of a famous astronaut.

Each week we will have a session in the library and will also have guided and whole-class reading lessons, where the children will be able to improve their comprehension skills and also practise reading aloud.

Maths

In this half term, we will begin by studying place value. This will involve being able to read, write, order and compare numbers to at least 1 million, as well as being able to determine the value of each digit. We will also study how to round large numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1000, 10000 and 100000. The children will study negative numbers in context (eg: temperatures) and will also work to solve number puzzles involving positive and negative whole numbers. We will also learn how to read Roman numerals up to 1000.

We will then move onto concentrating on our skills of addition and subtraction: adding and subtracting increasingly large numbers mentally; using rounding to check answers to calculations; adding and subtracting large whole numbers using formal written methods and also solving addition and subtraction multi-step problems in contexts, including being able to choose appropriate methods and being able to explain why.

Throughout this half term we will use a 'mastery' approach to mathematics, giving the students many opportunities to enhance their problem-solving and reasoning skills. We will also have weekly skills checks, to ensure the children are regularly practising the 'basics' of KS2 mathematics.



Integrated Studies

In our short Brainwave topic, the students will be learning about learning! They will find out about how the brain works and also how we can gain knowledge, skills and understanding that will help us overcome the challenges ahead of us.

In the Space Explorers topic, students learn about our solar system and our own planet. They learn about how Earth has a moon and the relationship between the two. They also learn about what lies beyond the Solar System and learn about comets, asteroids and satellites. They look at how stars are born and die and how the atmosphere and surface differs across planets.

Students learn the history and progress of getting to the Moon and the current developments in getting people to Mars. They will become astronomers and learn about the invention of the telescope and constellations.

Students explore the properties of light and forces and other experiments. They build a Solar System model showing the relative sizes and distances apart of the planets from the Sun. They will also discuss if Pluto is still classified as a planet. In art, students will create pieces of work inspired by nebula and the aurora borealis.

In design and technology, the students will design and build reusable space rockets, focusing on how they can make their rocket land safely on the ground again.

Computing

The students will become good digital citizens and learn how to stay safe online and create a positive online community. They will have the opportunity to apply these skills using computers, iPads and laptops across the curriculum.

In Computing lessons, they will work to plan and create their own website/blog. They will have to decide what to include on their website, as well as how they want it to look. This can then be used throughout the year as a place to record, and reflect upon, their learning.

How parents can help...

You will be able to keep up with the children's learning on their whole class and personal learning blogs - I will send a letter home about these in due course.

Homework policy: Every day your child will be expected to read for 20 minutes and well as practising their spellings and timestables. Every week, they will receive a homework sheet including English, Maths and Topic activities. Please encourage your child to complete the homework on time, help and support them when necessary, however please do not do the homework for them.

Reading: We recommend that the children read every day at home. They will be given reading books and library books each week. Please encourage your child to talk about the book as well as reading it aloud to you, this helps with their understanding and enjoyment.

Timetables: Year 5 has a weekly timetable, which will be placed in their communication book in the first week back. Please take a look and make sure that your child brings their library books, PE kit (including trainers) and swimming kit on the required days. Black shoes must be worn every day unless they have PE.

Kind regards,

Ms Downes and Ms Louise