



WINHILLS

Year 5 and Year 6

Fortnightly Newsletter

Year 5

Year 5 have been working incredibly hard over the last two weeks.

In Maths, we have learnt the 'bus stop' method for short division which means that we now have a secure formal written method for each mathematical operation, and that we can solve word problems using all of them. Learning division has meant that our arithmetic scores on weekly tests have dramatically improved too! This week we have also learnt about BODMAS, which tells us the order in which to do calculations, so we can now write our mathematical calculations more accurately.

In English, we have started a unit of work on 'The Highwayman' narrative poem by Alfred Noyes. Some of the language is quite challenging but it is a powerful and emotional story. We're loving it!

We have been working hard on improving our spelling of some high frequency words which will make a huge improvement to the presentation of our work.

Year 6

Year 6 have had a great few weeks, where they have been working hard across the curriculum. After our trip to Young Voices at the O2, the children wrote some fantastic recounts in English. We then started a story writing unit with our topic on volcanoes as inspiration, and the children are starting to write their very own disaster themed narrative. Using 'Escape from Pompeii' by Christina Ballitt as a key text, the children have written openings and problems to stories in the same style, before creating their own versions.

In Maths, we have continued to look at fractions, and have now moved on to investigating percentages and decimals. We have been finding percentages of amounts and solving problems involving percentage increases and decreases. We are now looking at multiplication and division using decimals, before moving onto measures.

Foundation Subjects

Year 5 have started their new Science topic 'Properties and Changes of Materials'. There has been a lot of challenging vocabulary to learn such as *transparency*, *flexibility* and *solubility* but we have also had great fun conducting investigations into which materials dissolve in water.

Year 6 have been learning about fossilisation as part of our unit on Evolution and Inheritance. We investigated how fossils give us clues to the past, whilst writing descriptions of how fossils are formed and the special circumstances needed for fossilisation to occur.

Reminders

Homework, homework, homework! Children's homework is designed to reinforce and consolidate teaching of English, Maths and reading in the classroom and genuinely makes a difference to children's learning. Please support your child by ensuring that they are not falling behind with this.

Year 6 also have [spag.com](https://www.spag.com) homework to complete every week (online). If you are unable to complete this at home, there is an after school club at school on Tuesdays at 3.15pm.

Nurture

Inspire

Flourish