



## Class news for Term 1 from Primary 5AC and Primary 5LM

### Hello and welcome to Primary 5!

P5AC and P5LM have settled in very well after summer and it has been a pleasure getting to know all the pupils.

This term our topic will be **‘My Body and Me’** and in class we will be learning about the structure of our body and we will have a focus on our brain. Through learning about the brain, we will be working on our **health and wellbeing** by considering how having a fixed or growth mindset can impact on our schoolwork and our emotions. Through this topic, pupils will learn more about their skeleton, joints and muscles and the digestive, respiratory and circulatory systems. We will work on our **scientific skills** by conducting investigations into how our bodies respond to outside conditions. **If you would be able to come to the class to give a talk because you are a healthcare professional please send a dojo message!**

Pupils will have singing lessons once a week and are working on songs related to our topic. Also, once a week both classes will use Charanga to develop their understanding of tone, pitch and rhythm and to develop their appreciation of music. This term our focus is ‘Mamma Mia’ which is a unit focussed on the music of Abba. We hope to be able to record the songs that we are practising and post them on Dojo for you to see by the end of term.

In **Numeracy** we will be focusing place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division and mental strategies. Manga High is available and will be part of the children’s homework. For children who do not have access to reliable internet or do not like using Manga High, a worksheet can be provided to complete instead. On dojo, we will keep you updated with what we are working on in class so that maths can be discussed and practised regularly at home. Additionally, there are many games and apps available on iPads and laptops for extra numeracy practice. [www.topmarks.com](http://www.topmarks.com) has many good mental maths games such as ‘Hit The Button’ which can be set to practice addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

In **Literacy** our focus will be on improving the content of our writing. We will be working with a variety of resources and will undertake tasks to include more ambitious vocabulary in our writing. Pupils will continue to be encouraged to read to extend their vocabulary and provide ideas for writing. We will also be working hard to improve our handwriting to improve the fluency of joined writing and make capital letters clear. You can help your child at home by encouraging them to think about the presentation of their work when completing homework tasks. In guided reading, we will be working on comprehension skills and pupils will be encouraged to visualise the text, discuss new vocabulary and summarise what they have read. For reading homework, pupils will be assigned parts of the novel that their group is reading in class to read at home to be prepared for comprehension activities in class. The pages to be read will be posted on your child’s story on Class Dojo. Currently in class, we are working on using the context

to help us to understand new words and phrases so please encourage your child when reading at home to try to use the context to decode the meaning of words and phrases which you think are challenging.

In **French** we are currently focusing on greetings and this term we will cover numbers to 20, days and months and how to talk about your age, birthday and where you live.

This term our **R.M.E** will examine the rights and responsibilities associated with religions. We will also be researching the symbols and signs associated with world religions and explain their significance and importance.

The children will be using the iPads. They will be using them to present their work using some of the apps like Keynote, Pages and Book Creator. We will be discussing internet safety and the importance of using the iPads appropriately in class to enhance our learning.

Each week, your child will have:

- P5AC: P.E. on a Monday and Wednesday – please remember PE kit
- P5LM: P.E. on a Tuesday and Thursday – please remember PE kit
- Library is on a Tuesday – please remember your book each week.

**Homework** – this term we will send home tasks for the week on a Friday to be returned the following Thursday (unless notified otherwise). Children should check their story on Dojo for their assigned reading pages, each reading group will have reading due for a different day of the week. Homework diaries will not be issued but homework jotters should be checked and signed each week. Please encourage your child to look at their homework expectations and discuss with them if they are meeting these expectations to encourage them to always give their best effort and challenge themselves in open-ended tasks.

**Class Dojo** will be used to show evidence of learning, provide regular updates and to celebrate success. Weekly, the children will upload pieces of work that they are proud of and will share their learning intention. It is a useful tool for communication. Please feel free to use it to send messages, these will only come to the class teacher. However, **please inform the office if your child will be absent or missing school for an appointment** as the office staff keep a record of absences and appointments and they do not have access to Class Dojo.

Miss Crossan and Mr Marongwe

