



## Year 5 Autumn Term 1 Topic Letter

Dear Parents/ Carers

We have been really pleased with the children, who have certainly shown great enthusiasm and are beginning to settle well into the new routines of year 5.

We shall be covering the following areas this half- term in our topic **Africa**.

Many parents have, in the past, requested links to the topic where they can support their child in the learning going on in school. These are purely optional.

	<b>Curriculum covered this half-term</b>	<b>Optional suggestions for home-learning</b>
English	<p><b>Spelling:</b> Words from the national curriculum statutory word bank. Spelling rules: Plurals, prefixes and suffixes</p> <p><b>Grammar:</b> Verbs and irregular verbs Causal and time connectives Figurative language Commas in reference to clauses- complex, compound and simple Emotive language.</p> <p><b>Writing:</b> Persuasive writing Writing to Entertain (Poetry, Short Story, Descriptions, Songs)</p> <p><b>Reading:</b> Using the think books to help develop our comprehension and writing skills. Furthering the comprehension skills using the class book ' The Long Walk to Water' by Sue Parks.</p> <p><b>Handwriting:</b> Consolidation 6 rules of handwriting and writing with speed.</p>	<p>Places to visit: Horniman Museum- has excellent resources linked to Benin.</p> <p>Africa Gallery at British Museum (although we have planned a visit, we do not have enough time to explore the whole gallery).</p> <p><b>Books:</b></p> <p>We will be looking at genre of writing to entertain (short stories, narrative descriptions, poetry and songs) and persuasive writing this half term, you may want to encourage your child to read more of these genres.</p> <p>This link highlights books set in Africa: (scroll down to see list of books)</p> <p><a href="http://www.goodreads.com/list/show/12430.Top_Children_s_Y_A_Books_Set_in_Africa">http://www.goodreads.com/list/show/12430.Top_Children_s_Y_A_Books_Set_in_Africa</a></p>
Maths	<p>Place Value (reading and writing numbers, rounding, negative numbers) Formal methods of calculation</p> <p>Each topic will give children the opportunity to improve their fluency, reasoning and problem solving skills.</p>	
Science	<p>Life cycles of animals (birds, insects, amphibians, mammals) and plants.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/z4vv4wx">http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/z4vv4wx</a> - video clips of a variety of life cycles</p> <p><a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/ages/9_10/science_9_10.shtml">http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/ages/9_10/science_9_10.shtml</a> - ICT game</p>

ICT	Becoming an e-pal to a child in South Africa. How to use and manage an email effectively. Understand the on line safety and responsibilities.	It would be fantastic if you could share how you manage your emails with your child. How you communicate effectively with them. The problems with emails such as spam and phishing. <a href="http://www.tetherdownschool.org/parents/e-safety">http://www.tetherdownschool.org/parents/e-safety</a>
Geography	Mapping skills of Africa as a Continent. Unfair and fair spread of resources with a focus on water	
History	Ancient Civilisation of Benin	British Museum
PE	Outdoor Adventure for both Year 5 classes Netball for Y5 Chameleons Swimming for Year 5 Komodos (From Friday at 8.20am)	
Art	Print making	Look at Adinkra cloths from Ghana.
PSHE/ RE	Creation stories from different religions	
Music	Listening to different African Music African drumming African songs/chants	

### Dates for your diary

Drumming Workshop to be confirmed.

Visit to British Museum Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September

Curriculum workshop for parents Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 7.00-8.30pm

Parents evening – **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October** and **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October** 4.00 - 7.00pm.

Assemblies this half-term:

Y5 Komodos on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 9.00

Y5 Chameleons on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October 9.00

Open Afternoon – **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2.45-3.30pm**

Please do not hesitate to come and see us if you have any questions or concerns relating to your child during the term. We, and our support staff, are looking forward to a really productive term.

With best wishes

Annie Ashraf, Michelle Bottomley, Bianca Cohen and Oliver Rose.

**Year 5 Class Teachers**