

# Upper Phase Newsletter



🕒 16/1/2015

## Literacy

Year 5 have started their new class novel; 'The Firework-Maker's daughter' by Philip Pullman. They have been acting out scenes and role playing characters' dilemmas, which has helped them to write letters from a character's point of view.

Year 6 have also begun work on their new unit which is to write a persuasive speech. As they will then present their speeches orally, the children have been watching examples and learning about the importance of clarity, gesture and variation in tone of voice. This week the focus has been on selecting and researching important global issues to write about, including pollution, deforestation and global warming. In Guided Reading lessons, the children in Year 6 are being taught the literal and inferential skills they will need to answer reading comprehension skills accurately and fully.

## Maths

Year 5 have been practising efficient mental maths strategies, including counting forwards and backwards with positive and negative numbers. They have also been learning about Roman numerals.

Year 6 have been revising efficient written methods for the four operations and practising skills needed for mental maths. Some groups have also been learning to calculate the difference between positive and negative temperatures.

## Science

Year 5 have started learning about their new topic 'Earth and Space'. They have discussed questions to investigate and already begun to research some answers.

Year 6 have revised the work they started last term on 'Micro-organisms' and this week have made bold and colourful information posters demonstrating their knowledge.

## Art

This week the children in Year 5 have all had an opportunity to work with Mr Cornell, our artist in residence. They have used Buddhist artefacts and images as inspiration and have done some mixed media work with pastels and ink. Mr Cornell is using repetition of images to display the work in a colourful and dramatic way. We are really looking forward to seeing the finished results!

## Reminders

- Return clubs letters as soon as possible if you have not already done so.
- Bring PE kit (including jogging bottoms and warm top for outside) and water bottle every day.
- If the weather turns even colder, bring gloves and hat every day.