

# THE SHANG DYNASTY

Welcome back Year 5! We hope you are well-rested and looking forward to Term 4. This term, we will be travelling back in time to a place of turtle shells, chariots and jade: the Shang Dynasty! This will hopefully be an interesting and exciting new topic for us to enjoy, exploring the developments that the Shang civilisation was able to make many years ago as well as answering the questions: Who was Fu Hao? When did the Shang live? And what do turtle shells have to do with it?!

## Curriculum

In **maths** this term we will be continuing with our work on decimal calculations before moving on to developing our knowledge of factors, multiples and prime numbers.

In **English** we will be exploring how we can persuade others through our writing as well as demonstrating our topic knowledge in biographies and balanced arguments. In **guided reading** we will be delving into poetry and play scripts to hone our performance skills as well as exploring the book *Beetle Boy* by M.G. Leonard.

Our **topic lessons** will encompass both **history** and **geography**, where we will determine the impact the Shang dynasty had on China and the world, exploring their way of life and how the dynasty ended. In Science, we will look at the different ways that mechanisms can make moving loads easier, exploring the different types of mechanisms that can be used and applying this to our final DT project later in the term.

Our **art** and **DT** lessons will be inspired by our topic work, where we will be creating clay pots, Shang chariots and moving toys, using skills from previous terms to enhance our creations.

In **RE**, the children will be returning to exploring Christianity and in **PE**, they will be developing their Dance skills and taking part in some orienteering! In **computing** we will be enhancing our knowledge of E- Safety and responsible Internet research. During our **PSHEE sessions**, we will be exploring how we can ensure that we are staying healthy.

Dates for the diary:

4/3/22 World Book Day

25/3/22 5AD Class CW

## PE kits

Children need to ensure they are wearing their PE kits to school on **Tuesdays** and **Wednesdays**. We are likely to be outside for some of our weekly sessions, so wrap up warm!

Please ensure that your child comes to school with a **waterproof coat** and a **bottle of water** every day.

## Home learning

We will continue to set the children weekly home learning. Each week will consist of times tables, spelling practice and daily reading. Occasionally, there will be some flipped learning that will enable your child to develop their initial ideas, or dive deeper into a concept.

Your child is expected to practise their times tables for **at least 25 minutes every week** (using TT Rock stars). A solid understanding of their times tables can really strengthen your child's ability in Maths. If there is an issue using TT rock stars, please let your child's teacher know, before the Tuesday it is due to be completed, of your alternative method of practise.

Reading at home - both aloud and to themselves - is an excellent way of increasing vocabulary and comprehension.

Please encourage your child to have a book that interests/inspires them at home - if they want to bring this book to school for consistency and fluency, this is encouraged. If your child is struggling to find a book they enjoy or seems to stick with just one author or series, we are more than happy to give recommendations and advice! Spellings will be uploaded to Google Classroom each Tuesday, to be tested the following Tuesday. The children have been given a range of strategies they can use to