



Welcome back to Year 5.

I find it hard to believe so much time has passed since we were last together in Year 1. I am really excited and am looking forward to seeing how much your child has changed, in terms of their learning development, but also in terms of their social and emotional development.

This term our topic is *Flight* and we will be using this to transcend as many of our curriculum subjects as possible.

In English, we will be using the animation *Soar* as a stimulus for our writing. This is a wonderful, wordless animation, beautifully illustrated and with a heart-warming message of co-operation and determination. It also has one of the most delightful revelations at its finale. You can view it here, but keep it secret! I don't want to reveal the end to the children just yet!

<http://soarfilm.com/index.html>

In maths, our units of work begin with place value and move through addition/subtraction, statistics, multiplication/division, ending with perimeter and area at Christmas time. Throughout these units, we will use real-life scenarios from the flight world to support their learning.

We will also look at the history of aviation, studying prominent people such as Amelia Earhart and the Wright Brothers as well as lesser known inventors of the hot air balloon – the Montgolfier Brothers.

We will use the Montgolfier Brothers as inspiration for some of our art work, but we will also be making and flying our own kites, designing our own airline livery and creating blueprints using photosensitive paper.

In science, we will look at how plants disperse seeds using air currents and how the *Alsomitra* plant has one of the most evolutionary advanced gliders to carry their seeds from the parent plant. We will also create our own hot air balloons from tissue paper and using the power of hot air (not my own) see them rise upwards. Wind is an important feature of the *Soar* animation and we will create our own manometers to measure both the direction and power of the wind in our village, creating data to support our statistics unit in maths.

Our Geography work will also include looking at airports in major cities all over the world, identifying the important features needed for an airport, leading to a focus on the current proposal for Newquay to be the first Spaceport in the UK.

In computing, we will use Scratch as a coding tool to create an aeroplane-based game, navigating through the skies and avoiding obstacles.

Our outdoor PE session will be on Wednesday. Please can I ask that all PE kits are brought in as soon as possible.

Reading

Please ensure that time is given at home to reading. This should be in a variety of forms, including individual reading, audio books, shared reading or being read to. This should be a time that they enjoy and not a chore. If you find this to a battle in anyway, please let me know and I will endeavour to support you both with a way to move forward.

I also regularly maintain a record of the books that they read and the number of pages in each book so that you can see just how much they have read over the course of the year.

Home Learning

The children will have homework sent home on Fridays, as required, to support their learning or to prepare them for future learning. This may take different forms and should not be onerous. I don't want this to be in any way distressing and if you find it takes more than 30 minutes to complete, please come and discuss this with me.

I can't wait for tomorrow to begin and hope to see you soon.

Mr Hookes

