

Welcome back to the Spring term....

We hope that you have all had a wonderful Christmas break and that you are well rested and ready for the next twelve weeks of the Spring term in Year 5. We are so excited to get stuck into 2024! We have another jam-packed term ahead of us: from Vikings to space exploration, Thor to Chris Hadfield and full stops to parenthesis! This term Mrs McDonnell and Mrs Higginson will continue to teach all week, except for Tuesday afternoons, when you will be taught by Mrs Deakin. Mrs Deakin will continue to deliver your music and PE lessons. Miss Gibson will continue to support our learning every day.

So what's in store...

Inside this leaflet you will glean on outline of some of the exciting learning that will take place during our new topic EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY—if you have any photographs, posters, books, models, artefacts etc that may help the children with their learning, please send them in clearly labelled with your child's name or if you have an expertise in any of the areas mentioned inside and would like to come and chat to the children or offer some help/ activities, please do not hesitate to contact us.

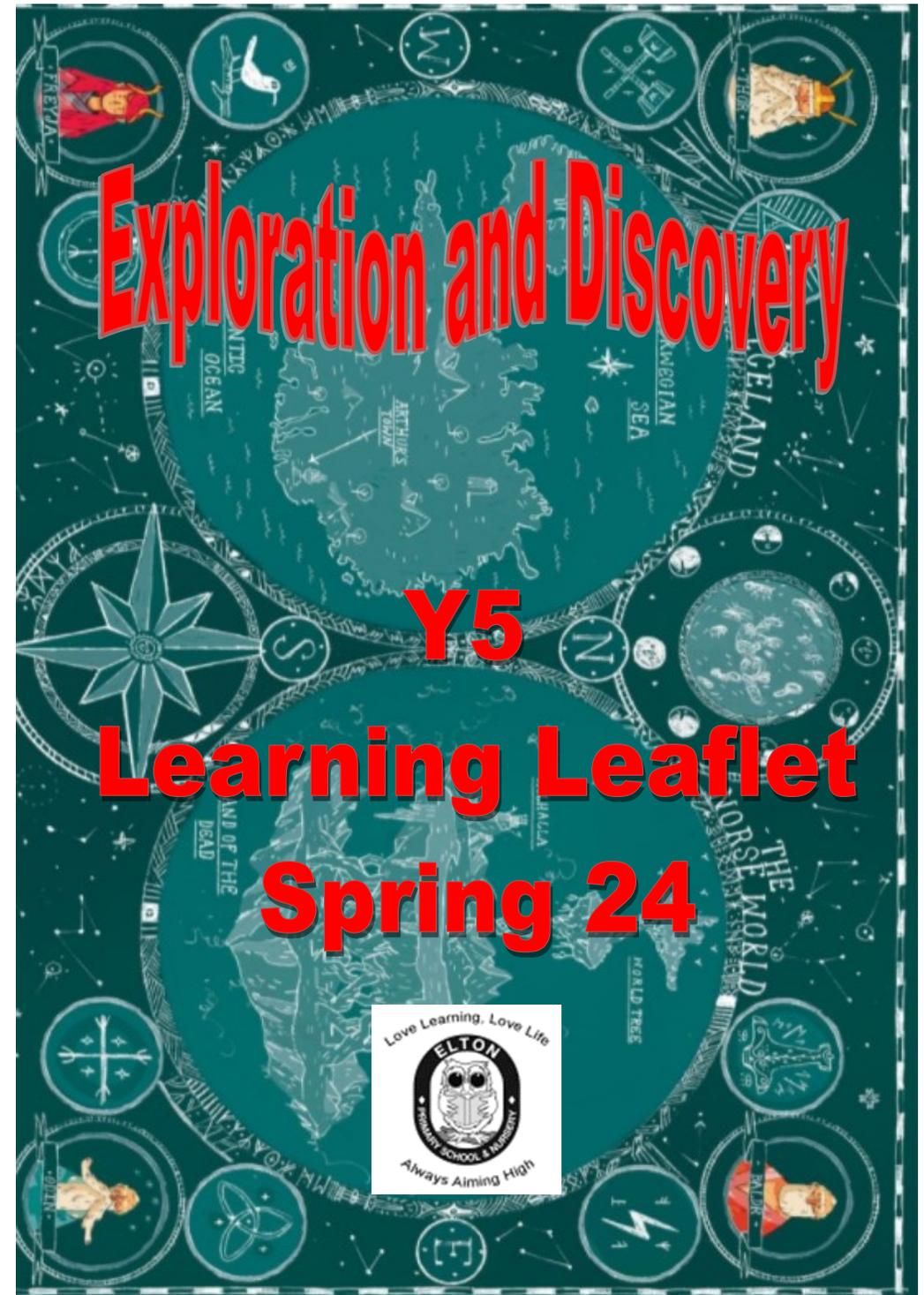
PE will be on Monday and Tuesday and afternoons this term (outdoors weather permitting/where ever possible)—so please make sure that you have the correct school PE kit in school. Trainers for outdoor lessons/break times if needed and school shoes for in the classroom please.

Learning Log homework and Maths will continue to be given out on a Friday and should be returned on a Wednesday. Spellings will be given out in the first week back, and should be practised regularly. As always, reading is the cornerstone of all learning. We recommend reading a wide range of texts both at home and at school, this includes your child's school reading book and their own personal reading books. Please continue to listen to your child read and sign their reading records as regularly as you can. By Year 5, we expect the children to also record any home reading they do themselves in their reading record, however it would be great if you could sign it to confirm they have read. Reading records will be checked every Tuesday and Friday. Please ensure that you have them with you every school day, but particularly on these days.

AOB: Any jumpers/shoes/kits left in the classroom at the end of a day are placed in the boxes above our coat pegs in class. Please ensure these are named so we can return them, we have an ever increasing collection of abandoned jumpers and cardigans, and we know how expensive replacing uniform can be. Also water bottles need to be taken home regularly and washed,.

We look forward to seeing you all soon, any questions please ask.

Mrs McDonnell, Mrs Higginson, Miss Gibson and Mrs Deakin



Topic Overview:

This term our exciting context for learning is 'Exploration and Discovery'. In the first half term we will be using the gripping story of **Arthur and the Golden Rope** by **Joe Todd-Stanton** to kick start our adventures into Norse mythology before exploring the origins and lives of Marvel's own very own Avengers. Through this we will continue our studies of the Anglo-Saxons and rapidly progress into the Viking Invasion of the UK.

After half term, we will take our exploration into the greater unknown through studying the stories '**The Darkest Dark**' by **Chris Hadfield**, and 'The boy who climbed to the moon' by David Almond as our launch pads into our investigation of the Earth in Space.



English:



During the first half term we will be focused upon reading and writing myths. We will create our own heroes, monsters and villains and vary the view points from which we retell and create our myths. Our writing this term is really going to focus on cohesion—organising, sequencing and extending our paragraphs using conjunctions, commas, adverbials and clear presentational choices.

After half term we move onto recounts and biographical writing. Within this unit we will be writing a factual biography about Chris Hadfield. We will learn to use bracket, dashes and commas to indicate parenthesis and continue to develop our use of conjunction to extend sentences.

We will continue to develop our comprehension and inferential skills in guided reading and as a whole class share a range of myths and legends. Throughout spellings, punctuation and handwriting remain a priority in all our work.

Maths:

We will start the term off by revisiting multiplication and division, to learn to use written methods to solve increasingly complicated calculations, including multiplying 4 digit numbers by 2 digit numbers, and using the short method to divide. We will then return to fractions to apply our learning by multiplying fractions, and finding fractions of quantities.

After half term, we will move on to finding out about decimals, percentages, perimeter and area and statistics.

Science:

Within science, we will look at forces, with a specific focus on the force of gravity. We will also identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surfaces. After half term, we move to look at Earth and space. Within this unit, we will describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system and describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth. We will understand that the Sun, Earth and Moon are approximately spherical bodies and we will use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.

ICT:

We will begin this term by continuing to develop our websites based around our learning in other subjects - watch this space for them going live! Then we will undertake a unit on digital media, which will enable us to plan, design and create an app, based around a multi-level game.



Geography and History:

We will start the term by finishing our studies of the Anglo Saxon conquest of England and follow this by asking our selves questions such as: How did the Anglo Saxons become Christian? Who was Alfred the Great and was he in fact great? What did the Anglo Saxon's believe? This will lead us onto examining how and when the Vikings raided the UK and how this changed our way of life from place names to transport. We will link our historical studies to geographical knowledge of the early Norse settlements throughout Frodsham, Chester and the Wirral peninsula.



Design Technology and Art:

Our focus in DT is 'Super heroes—Super foods' and in particular how we can design and make healthy energy foods that will sustain Thor and his friends on their epic quests to save the universe!

Later in the term we will use our programming skills, engineering workshops and science knowledge to help us to design and make an electronically controlled moving space vehicle.

Art throughout the term will be delivered discretely through our RE work and studies of Norse mythology. We will investigate briefly the work of Van Gogh's *Starry Night* during our study of the earth in space.

PE:

PE lessons will continue be taught on a Monday and Tuesday afternoon, specifically looking at basketball and gymnastics -so don't forget those PE kits. Please make sure all parts of the kit are named, we frequently have random socks, shorts or tops left after PE lessons.

French:

This term, we will begin by learning the names of different fruits and vegetables, as well as having short conversations asking for different produce. We will then learn to say the names of some items of clothing, and practise describing what we are wearing.

P4C:

In P4C, you will be learning all about the UN Sustainable Development Goals—17 goals to make the world a better, safer, more sustainable place for the future. In particular, you will be looking at renewable energy, gender equality and poverty.

Music:

This term is timely for Valentines day with 'Make you feel my love' as our first unit, followed by a real favourite from the 90s era when Will Smith will take you back to rap and the Fresh Prince of Bel Air. Promises to be a very exciting unit!



RE:

In the first half term we will be introducing you to Sikhism. What do Sikhs belief? Who are the Gurus? What are the 5 K's ? What is a Gurdwara? We will also examine similarities and differences in a faith or secular led life. Moving on from this we will examine Christianity and in particular focus on concepts of Christianity we may find hard to understand.