

# Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter

## 'Human Rights' The Art of Protest

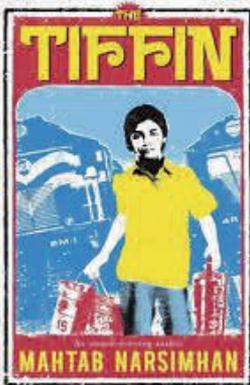


Welcome back everyone to an exciting fun-filled Spring Term!

Our term began with a huge change. The first day back was rather unexpected for Year Five. Rights were taken away and pupils were made to wear coloured bibs. They (Woodsetts) were given numbers and their names taken away. During playtime they were not allowed to speak to any other children in school. Further restrictions, included the use of just one pencil during the day. Some accepted their new rules, some were angry and some were ready to protest.

Here are some thoughts from the children. *'We had our human rights taken away and we did not like it!' Another child stated, 'I just want it to be a normal school day again.'*

The day was a successful one, as the children began to empathise with the plight of others. We also were fortunate to share the wonderful home learning that children had completed over the Christmas holiday. We learned from Powerpoints and presentations on Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela



We will be reading *Tiffin* by Mahtab Narsimhan. This a charming, heart-breaking and beautifully evocative novel about fate, friendship and family.

Every day in the vast and vibrant city of Bombay, thousands of 'dabbawalla' delivery-men transport hundreds of thousands of freshly prepared lunches in tiffin boxes, straight from workers' homes and into their offices. Even though the city is a maze of streets, and the tiffins carry a delivery code only 'dabbawallas' can understand, no lunch ever gets lost. Well, almost never...

When a secret note placed in a tiffin box goes astray, the consequences for a young boy are devastating. Separated from his mother and forced to work as a slave in a cafe, Kunal is sure that if he could just find his family, his life and his fortunes would change forever.

Recruiting the help of a dabbawalla friend, Kunal vows to find his mother - and it seems the answer may lie with the tiffins once more. If a lost note was the beginning of his destiny, can he use another to change it?

**Literacy** will be based on our topic and new genre will be explored every two weeks. The term will begin with persuasive writing where the children will write their own persuasive speeches. We will also focus on writing Biographies- the children will write a biography on Nelson Mandela. The final genre that we will master are 'Newspaper Recounts' - the children will explore the life of Rosa Parks. Monday's literacy is now a focus on Grammar which is followed up in shorter sessions throughout the week. Spellings linked to our Grammar work will be given out on Fridays and tested the following Friday. In addition to an hour's Literacy lesson, children will also have daily guided reading sessions.

**Numeracy** The term will begin with an emphasis on number and mental calculations. During Week 2 we will focus on mental methods of addition /subtraction moving onto mental methods of multiplication/division in Week 3. During Week 4 we will explore geometry and measurement. Then it is back to number with more formal methods of addition and subtraction and multiplication and division in weeks 5 and 6.

January's tables are 'Excellent Eights'. Please help your child learn and recall their times tables quickly. They will be tested in the final week of January. Good luck! Will it be Bronze, Silver or Gold?

**Science** - Lifecycles—animals and humans.

**ICT** - We are bloggers! Become familiar with blogs being a medium and genre of writing.

**History and Geography**—We will explore the Civil Rights Movement, USA, the end of Apartheid, South Africa and life of Gandhi in India.

**PE** is on Tuesday afternoons and taken by Mr Partington until Mr Steadman's return at Woodsetts and Mrs Stanford at Anston Brook. Could you please ensure that for PE sessions kits are available in school. It would also help if children with long hair could tie it back and earrings are removed.

**PHSE** Our themes will be Bullies - Bullying, Pressure and Risks

We will study the UNICEF Rights of the Child. What are everyone's human rights?

**RE** What difference do the Five Pillars of Islam make to Muslim children's lives?

**Art** Stretch a person! Portraits

### Useful websites

<http://www.maths-games.org/>

Lots of fantastic free online maths games to help you practise maths skills including counting, addition and subtraction, times tables, fractions, measuring, shapes, angles, telling the time and lots more.

<http://www.sendmyfriend.org/> [www.humanrightseducation.info](http://www.humanrightseducation.info)

<http://www.unicef.org.uk/Education/>

<http://www.peacemuseum.org.uk/>



### **Ways to help your child:**

- By talking about the **topics** and finding out any information from books, computers, internet, libraries etc. Please encourage the children to bring any useful information into school. If you have any particular personal information, which may be of interest and you would like to share this in school, please contact your child's class teacher.
- By discussing any **Numeracy** home learning with your child and helping/encouraging them to complete any home learning tasks using the [www.MyMaths.co.uk](http://www.MyMaths.co.uk) program. By helping them to learn thoroughly any times tables or number work.  
Log in Woodsetts—Password Circle  
Log in Anston—Password Square
- By helping them to learn thoroughly any **spellings** they may bring home. Spellings are given out every Friday and are tested the following Friday. Please check the website under Class 5. Spellings can be practised using different strategies or using the look, cover, write, check strategy. It is better to do a little everyday as this helps the learning 'stick'.
- By encouraging them to read at least 3 times a week (more if they are enjoying the story or information in the book). This could be a school book, a book they enjoy at home, newspapers internet research or our online [www.bugclub.co.uk](http://www.bugclub.co.uk) program. Please look out for further details as logging in details will be changing. We celebrate reading on Fridays.

Kind Regards

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