



## Downside Primary School

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**Headteacher:** Miss Karen Hooker

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Dear Parents and Carers of year 5 children,

Welcome back after a long Easter break! We have lots of fun activities planned for the children this term and some exciting topics to teach.

Firstly, our History topic is the Anglo-Saxons. Children will learn why the Saxons invaded Great Britain and settled here. Specifically, we will teach the children about the day to day life of these ancient people. We will also study artefacts uncovered at Sutton Hoo and learn what these tell us about this period in history. Children will also be taking part in an Anglo-Saxon themed day! We will also make comparisons with the Romans topic in Year 4. In Summer 2, we will start our Healthy Living topic. The children will be learning about the human body including the circulatory system. They will also be designing and making their own healthy smoothies!

In Literacy, we will re-visit Legends and also write reports and recounts. The children have worked hard to improve their sentence structure and vocabulary choices so far this year. We will continue to focus on these elements of writing as well as using complex sentences and higher level punctuation.

During Numeracy lessons, we will focus a great deal on the four operations (+, -, ÷ and x) to consolidate the children's knowledge before they enter Year 6. We would really appreciate your help at home to ensure your child knows their times table facts and can add and subtract mentally as poor knowledge in these areas is still a barrier to some of the topics that we teach. Fractions, decimals and percentages are also a focus this term.

RE will focus on respect and the religious diversity in Luton. We will continue our School Linking project with Leagrave Primary School and Chantry Primary Academy. This will include link visits and a celebration event.

In Music, children will be writing their own songs and performing them. They will also spend time thinking about why people write songs. Our Spanish topic this term is The High Street.

In PE this term the children will be doing archery and golf. Outside, the children will take part in athletics and rounders. Please can I remind parents that children should have a PE kit in school at all times and that earrings should not be worn on PE days.



The children will continue to use a range of ICT to support their Literacy and Numeracy and will also use SketchUp Viewer software to create their own virtual gallery to display their artwork.

In the first half term, children will spend their science lessons exploring how to separate mixtures using filtering, sieving and evaporation. This unit is very practical which the children really enjoy.

Thank you for all your support with reading at home. The children thoroughly enjoyed reading the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe last term! Please remember that encouraging your child to read is one of the most useful things you can do to support your child in school.

Thank you for all your support so far this year. Please ensure the children use their logins to Active Learn, Mathletics and RM Maths as they are an excellent resource to supplement their learning in school.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Neil Dilkes

Year 5 Leader