

Monday April 15th 2024

Dear Year 5 Parents and Carers,

We hope you all managed to have a restful and relaxing Easter break and had the opportunity to spend some quality time with your friends and families. As we head into our first summer term, we will be introducing the children to our final unit: Rivers and Mountains.

Curriculum

Attached with this letter is our theme overview for our upcoming topic and we certainly have a lot of fun and exciting learning opportunities for the children to take part in. Rivers and mountains are an extremely important part of our natural world. They provide vital ecosystems for various flora and fauna, as well as jobs for those who work or study these amazing physical features. We will be exploring a river's journey to get to the sea or ocean and also conducting our own river studies when Year 5 head to the Gilbert White Field Studies Centre in Selbourne on Thursday 9th and Friday 10th May. More information about this trip will be with you soon.

Please read the theme overview carefully, as it will give you a good understanding of the topics being covered with your child over this half term. We encourage you to discuss the questions and key vocabulary with your child both before and during their learning on this topic. This will help them feel well-prepared and more confident for the learning journey ahead.

Outdoor Learning Week

On the week commencing 13th May, Year 5 will be participating in Outdoor Learning Week. We will stay on the school site but will be taking our learning outdoors every morning of that week. You will receive a letter with all the relevant information soon.

English

Our extended writing opportunity this term will be writing a **biography** based on David Attenborough's life and achievements. He is an extremely positive influential figure whose work with animals and the environment perfectly aligns with our topic. We will also be showing off our poetry writing skills by writing a poem based on of Valerie Bloom's 'The River'.

In our grammar lessons, we will be looking at how **colons** can be used to form lists, how **commas** can enhance clarity in the children's writing and how **cohesive devices** can improve the flow and structure of their written work. As with everything, the more practice your child can get, the more confident they will become, so please take the time to complete the homework each week.

Headteacher: Miss S McGann

Deputy Headteacher: Miss K Whiting

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Connaught Junior School, as part of TAMAT, is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

Mathematics

Within mathematics, the children will be continuing to cover **decimals** and **percentages**. Our focus will be looking at fraction/decimal equivalents, comparing and rounding decimals while combining these skills with reasoning and problem-solving style questions. Decimals can sometimes be a difficult concept for children to grasp and while we will do as much as we can in class with them, please make sure you continue with supporting your child with their homework and encourage them to try the harder challenges. In addition, please make sure your child is practising their **times tables** at least five times a week. This will certainly aid your child's confidence within maths.

Science

In science, we will be looking into the different **changes in materials** and we will begin by looking at separating and mixing solutions and then moving onto properties of solids, liquids and gases.

PE

As the unpredictable British weather persists, please ensure your child has suitable outdoor footwear for their PE lessons and the correct Connaught PE uniform, with black or dark green skins to wear underneath their PE shorts if desired. Please avoid sending your child in wearing branded or other tracksuits. We have a selection of second hand, affordable uniform available from the office should you need anything. We will be taking the children outside whenever possible and sometimes out onto the field, so please do send them in warm clothes. Again, please name all items clearly as things can sometimes get lost during the school day.

Forest School

Below are the dates of each class's forest school session. The groups will stay the same from the previous term. If your child cannot remember what group they were in, please speak to their class teacher.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Date of first session (Group A)</u>	<u>Date of second session (Group B)</u>
Cotopaxi	23 rd April 2024	30 th April 2024
Rainier	7 th May 2024	14 th May 2024
Denali	21 st May 2024	11 th June 2024
Salcantay	18 th June 2024	25 th June 2024

And finally...

If you have any questions or concerns, then please do get in touch. Our aim is to always develop a positive and healthy relationship with our parents. So if you have a question about anything, please email us directly on our class email addresses and we will respond within 48 hours. Alternatively, you can phone or email the school office.

Kind regards,

Miss Daulby

Mr Tilly

Mrs Dickinson

Miss Ratcliffe

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Deputy Headteacher: Miss K Whiting

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