

Wednesday 22nd April

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 penultimate topic: Raging Rivers and Marvellous 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 study when Year 5 head to the Gilbert White Field Studies Centre in Selbourne on Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd May. Information about this trip was sent out before Easter.

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.

English

Our writing opportunities this term will be writing a first-person **narrative** based on the comical Literacy Shed video 'The Catch' and a **poem** in the style 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.

The average year 5 child should be able to read 160 words per minute. The fluidity of their reading has a direct impact on their success in our reading comprehension texts. The best way to increase their reading speed is for them to be reading out aloud to an adult. 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.

Mathematics

Within mathematics, the children will be introduced to **area and perimeter**. As always, it is vital that you continue to support your child with their homework and encourage them to try the harder challenges. We do not expect your child to complete every question on their homework sheet, but we do expect them to give it their best shot. 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.

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.

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 is a reminder of the Forest School dates. Before half term Cotopaxi and Rainier completed their sessions so Denali and Salcantay are scheduled for this half term.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Date of first session (Group A)</u>	<u>Date of second session (Group B)</u>
Cotopaxi	21 st April	28 th April
Salcantay	5 th May	12 th May
Denali	19 th May	9 th June
Rainer	16 th June	23 rd June

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. 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,

Mrs Bell

Mr Tilly

Mrs Dickinson

Miss Ward

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Deputy Headteacher: Miss K Whiting

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