



St John's Gosport C of E (VA) Primary School

Grove Road, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 4JH
www.st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk
adminoffice@st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Carolyn Wilkinson
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Gemma Havey
School Business Manager: Mrs Hannah Bonwick

Telephone: 02392 582404

Year 5 Spring 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to year 5! We hope you all had a lovely, restful Christmas break and that your children enjoyed our topic on Mayans. This half term we will be learning about extreme environments. We will be looking at Shackleton's expedition to Antarctica and how to survive in extreme environments.

English

We are beginning this half term with 'Ice Trap', a story based on Shackleton's Incredible Expedition. We will be looking at writing a first-person narrative as if we are one of Shackleton's crew and writing an extreme environment survival guide.

Maths

Our first unit will focus on geometry and time followed by, place value with measurement and all four operations then fractions. You can continue to support your child at home with Maths by ensuring that they know and regularly practice their times tables using TT Rockstars. Every child has access and their own login to this.

Science

We will be learning about forces that oppose motion. This will include water and air resistance and planning an investigation, predicting and collecting data. The Knowledge Organiser for this unit of science is on our website for you to view. We will be working through the subjects on this organiser and have provided it for you so that you also have an understanding of the coverage.

Geography

Linked to our topic on extreme environments, we will be looking at why do Oceans matter. Focusing on how we use our oceans. Why are our oceans suffering and how litter is affecting our marine environment?

DT

We will be making a wooden frame and a textile artwork to create a canvas linked with our topic about Shackleton's journey and extreme environments.

RE/Global Neighbours

In religious studies we will be looking at belonging and how belonging affects our own lives.



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Computing

We will be learning about online safety and programming music.

PDL/No Outsiders/Evolve

Dreams and goals.

MFL (French)

French food, market and money.

PE

This term, in line with our science and keeping healthy. Our PE days are going to be on a Monday afternoon swimming and Tuesday. Children will need to come dressed for PE on Mondays and Tuesdays and bring their swim suits and towels with them on Mondays. As the days get colder and wetter can we ask that children wear proper trainers (not plimsolls) and they wear blue or black tracksuits for when they are outside. They will need normal shorts and sports team t-shirts for when they are inside. Please remember that children should have their hair tied back and should not be wearing jewellery. Please provide earring tape if your child cannot take out their stud earrings. PLEASE NOTE: Due to swimming, there will be some changes to these days later in the term but we will let you know nearer the time.

Uniform

We do ask that all the children come to school looking smart in their uniform. Please be reminded that shoes (not trainers) should be plain black and without colour, including white. Please make sure everything is **NAMED**. Jewellery should not be worn to school (only stud earrings are allowed). As the weather gets colder and more unreliable, please can you make sure your child has a coat in school.



Water bottles

Can you please provide a **named** water bottle for your child to bring into the classroom daily. Remember we ask these are filled with only water or sugar free squash. The bottles will be taken home after each day to be cleaned and refilled for the following day.

Reading at home

We ask you, please encourage your children to read at home as often as possible as this is vital at supporting their progress in all areas of the curriculum. Even if children read independently, this can be recorded in their reading diaries.



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Communication

Each morning the class teacher will be at the gates, if you need to pass on any information, please do so then. However, due to staggered starting and finishing times throughout the school, we ask if you need to discuss anything with the teacher to make an appointment when convenient. We do understand that some parents work, and are not around at the start or end of the day, so please feel free to write a message for your child to hand to their teacher or call the office and the class teacher will give you a call. You can also email us at year5@st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk. We check this email as least twice a week.

Homework

Every week, your child will be set new assignments on Ed Shed where the children will practise their spelling and SPaG work and they will be expected to practise their times tables on TT Rockstars.

There is a homework project this half term. Details of this can be found at the bottom of this letter.

Thank you for your support and we are looking forward to working with you all this year.
Mrs James and Mrs Goulding (the year 5 team).

Home learning project Year 5

This half-term, the children have a choice about what to do for their homework. Linked to our 'Extreme Environments' topic they can choose any of the following tasks:

1. A fact-file or poster about an extreme environment of their own choosing. This could include; photos, drawings, diagrams, facts. This could be done on paper or a computer and brought into school on a memory stick.
2. Some art work related to an extreme environment. It could be a drawing, collage, model or painting.
3. Do some research on the damage humans are doing to our oceans and make a poster warning people about this threat.

Any homework done needs to be brought in by Friday the 6th of February 2026.



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“Give us faith, fun and friendship as we learn, love and fly”