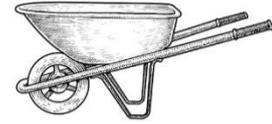




## Welcome to Year 5!

Term 1



**Hello and welcome back to a new year at Abbey Woods! We have begun our year with green fingers with our main topic being 'Allotments'. So far this term we have already explored how plants reproduce, have planted our own seeds and invented our own animals suited to specific environments. We have thought about where our food comes from and have explored how far our food travels.**

This term our class book was *James and the Giant Peach*. The children began to explore this book during our Roald Dahl day, making persuasive posters advertising the peach to tourists. In our English lessons we have also been exploring the picture book *The Promise*. This book looks at a city, and we have been using it to inspire lots of different types of writing.

Spelling and maths homework will continue to be sent out on a Friday and should be returned to me by the Wednesday of the following week. I will also send out some English homework. This will focus on creative writing and will often be a story starter or ask the children a question. This is to help expand the children's writing skills. I ask that your child practice their spellings (a spelling sheet will be provided every week), and that they attempt the homework – however much or little that is.

If for any reason your child is unable to complete their homework, I will be starting a homework club one lunchtime a week to provide additional support and will let the children know which day this will be held.

It would be extremely beneficial if you could listen to your child read and read to your child as often as possible. Please encourage your child to bring their reading record and reading book into school every day. We will be going to the library more next term so that the children can choose their own book, and I have several books that I can loan out to children if they are interested.

To let you know a little about myself, I am a newly qualified teacher and was trained at Oxford Brookes University last year. I have a degree in Philosophy and had been working in Oxford in the publishing sector before retraining. As a newly qualified teacher, I do receive some additional planning time during the school week. As a result, the class is taken by other teachers on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. However, I am always back in the classroom at the end of the day to see the children out.

In year 5, the children have PE on Thursday afternoons, so please ensure your child brings in their PE kit on those days.

If you have any questions throughout the year, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am available before and after school every day.