



## Harwell Community Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

First of all, I hope you all have had a wonderful summer and wish you all a very warm welcome to Year 5! We have already had a fantastic start to the school year. We have started to learn our new routines and expectations for Year 5 and have explored different artefacts/clues to help us understand our new topic '**Ruthless Romans**'. Within this topic we will be looking at the growth of the Roman Empire, the impact it had on Britain and influential figures during this time.

Our big question is: ***The Empire Strikes: How did the Romans become so successful?***

The project outcome will be in class on **Thursday 21st October at 2:30 pm.**

Alongside our topic, we will be looking at '**Animals including Humans**' in science. Within this unit, we will be expected to look after our own babies (1.5kg bag of flour!) for a week. The children will bring home a log and a diary which they are expected to fill out each day on their experience as a new parent. Previous years have absolutely loved this activity and I am excited to do it with this year group. Further information will be provided about this activity closer to the time.

In **literacy** this term, we will be writing a historical story and a recount whilst developing our grammar and punctuation which this term will include different word classes and sentence structures. '**There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom**' by Louis Sachar is our guided reading book for this term. In **maths**, we will be learning about place value and addition and subtraction.

**Swimming** will take place on Tuesday afternoons and **PE** will be on Thursday afternoons.

Some points to remember:

- Please provide a swimming costume and hat
- No jewellery is permitted in the pool; so any earrings must be taken out
- If, for any reason, you wish for your child not to swim or take part in a PE lesson, please may we ask for a written note from you.
  - PE will be taking place outside this term. Please make sure children come to school in their outdoor kits on Thursdays.
  - To avoid lost kits, costumes, and hats can you please ensure all clothing is clearly labelled.
  - Please also ensure they bring water to school in a labelled bottle.

Homework this term will begin on 6th September. Children will be set multiplication tables to practise on Timetable Rockstars and spellings on SpellingShed each Monday (paper copies can be provided for anyone who experiences technical difficulties). Children will be tested on both their multiplications and spellings every Friday so it is in their interest to practise these. We also ask that children read for 10 minutes each day. This can be to themselves, to you, or to a sibling. Please encourage reading everywhere in every way you can. If you

could record at least three of these in your child's reading in their reading record that would be greatly appreciated.

I hope this letter covers any queries about the new term.

If you have any questions please email the office. Thank you again for your support, we look forward to another exciting term of learning!

Best wishes, Miss Rockett and the Year 5 Team