

Happy New Year and welcome back to an exciting, action packed Spring term. The children have returned refreshed from their Christmas break and have kicked off the New Year with such enthusiasm. Our new curriculum theme for the term is 'The Winds of Change'. This theme will have a focus on the **Shang Dynasty of China** and our big question; *What can we learn from our ancestors?*

There are still more exciting **Widening Horizons** trips to take place this term. Remember, there are no costs for any of these trips. Here are some important dates for your diary:

Date	Trip/Visit
Monday 27th January 2025	<u>Bike-ability week</u> - Children can wear their own clothes but these must be suitable for riding. Waterproof coats and safety helmets will be needed daily (<i>Bikes and Helmets can be provided if requested</i>).
Wednesday 29th January 2025	9.10am -12.45pm <u>Widening Horizons</u>: Foot Anstey (Coach/Lunch provided*) <i>*Please inform us about any allergies your child may have prior to this trip</i>
Thursday 20th March 2025	9.45am -12pm <u>Widening Horizons</u> : Real Ideas at Market Hall Trip (Walking - back in school for lunch)
Friday 21st March 2025	<u>Year 5 Class Assembly</u>: 9.10am

Please ensure that all of your child's belongings (PE kit, coat, uniform, bookbag, costume etc.) have clear name labels in. PE kits need to be in school from Monday to Friday as there may be times when we take advantage of the weather and do PE on a different day. As previously, we also request that your child has a water bottle in school at all times and has a *healthy* snack for break.

Thank you for all of your support with homework, alongside the usual spelling, times tables and mental maths that we send home on a weekly basis. It is vital to your child's progress that they continue with their learning at home. Just a reminder that spellings should be practised over short bursts, each evening or when walking to school - please remind children to log into their Spelling Shed account for spelling activities that will reinforce patterns, rules and use in context. Times tables and division facts should also be practised weekly to ensure they can move on to the next set; the Times-Tables Rockstars (TTR) program has recently proven to really raise the children's confidence and accuracy. A minimum of 20 minutes reading should be done every night, please encourage your child to read either independently or to you. We aim to change books weekly, unless your child is a free reader, in which case, they will change reading books themselves using the library or our class set.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. If you have any queries, please feel free to pop in after school to speak with either one of us and we will endeavour to help.

Mr Napier and Miss Phillips

Year 5 Team