

Year 5 Spring Newsletter

Dear Parents / Carers,

We have been pleased to see the children excited to come back to school, ready and well-rested after the holiday!

The children have started reading *Toby Alone* by Timothee de Fombelle, 'an epic adventure in a miniature world'. Toby, who is only 1.5mm tall, and his family live in a single, great oak tree. The fantastic tale of Toby's fate ultimately concerns not just his home but also his entire whole world – or in other words, the tree! This story provides the backdrop for the overview and theme of the term: Conservation.

Channelling the theme of conservation, there will be a large focus on the natural world in science. We are beginning with studying insects (which play an important role in the world of *Toby Alone*), their life-cycles and habitats. After, we will broaden our attention to animals and plants more generally, with the aim of becoming more greatly informed and knowledgeable in a way that we can use in our writing.

In Literacy the children will have a non-fiction focus which will utilise their developing scientific understanding. The children have already been hard at work researching their insects of choice and are in the process of using the information to put together a non-chronological report. Some of the other forms and writing styles they will cover this term include persuasive writing and debates.

In Numeracy, after our week of inspirational maths, we are working towards mastering written methods of multiplication and division – though, we are hoping to make use of the weather and explore negative numbers when the time comes!

Please could you make sure your child has their PE kit in school each week? Yangtze have PE on a Thursday and Limpopo have PE on Friday. Ensure that your child's kit comprises of a light blue T-shirt, dark blue or black leggings or tracksuit trousers and a pair of trainers. Please make sure that your child also has a water bottle.

We will keep you posted with any updates.

Best wishes,

Mrs Horn and Mr Panzer