

Welcome back to school! We hope you have all had a lovely summer

In Maths this half term both Years 5 & 6 will be focusing on place value, the four operations (+-x÷), fractions and shape. Year 6 will also be converting units and revisiting position and direction.

This half term our English lessons will be focused on spelling and grammar recapping nouns, verbs and simple clause sentences before moving onto coordinating conjunctions and compound subjects. We will also be polishing up our handwriting both in terms of size of letters and joins.

In Geography, we will be investigating why certain parts of the world are more populated than others, exploring birth and death rates; discussing how climate change is impacting the population.

In DT, Year 5 will be learning how to follow a simple Bolognese recipe and adapting it to improve nutritional content. They will also apply their computing knowledge and understanding to program a micro:bit animal monitoring device. Year 6 will research existing playground equipment and their different forms. They will then design and develop a range of apparatus to meet a list of specified design criteria.

In Science, Year 5 will be exploring different types of mixtures and the different methods that can be used to separate them. They will dissolve a range of substances, identify different solutions and investigate how temperature affects the time taken to dissolve. They will also design and make a water filter, sieve soil and evaporate solutions.

Year 6 will be broadening their knowledge in science around how vertebrates, invertebrates, plants and micro-organisms are grouped using shared characteristics. They will learn about systems for classifying and naming living things. They will also use and produce branching and number classification keys to sort and identify organisms.

We will also be doing:

- RE - children will be working on comparisons about the origins of the Abrahamic religions
- PE - children will continue to build on their knowledge and skills of football. These included controlling the ball using either foot, passing over different distances, dribbling the ball, using the inside, outside (hooks) and drag back techniques to turn.
- PSHE - children will be thinking about 'Being Me in My World', understanding that we are part of a school community and we have a responsibility to make it a better place to be
- Computing - children will use the PRIMM approach to predict, run, investigate and modify code before creating their own programs, developing problem solving skills along the way
- Music - based on the theme of Ancient Egypt, children will learn to identify the pitch and rhythm of written notes
- French - we will be reviewing noun gender, article /noun agreement and adjective placement

Core Texts

The core texts we will be reading this half term are: 'The Girl Who Stole an Elephant' by Nizrana Farook.

Homework

We will be setting homework this half term in line with the homework policy:

- Maths and English homework is set every Thursday and is due in the following Tuesday.
- Children are expected to read a minimum of five times per week, and this is to be recorded in their planners (Year 6) or reading records (Year 5).
- Children should access TT Rock Stars for a minimum of 10 minutes daily. It is important that all children can recall their times table and division facts **randomly** and **at speed**.
- Throughout the year, additional spelling, punctuation and grammar homework may also be set to support the learning taking place at school.

Important information

Don't forget that every day the children need: a re-fillable water bottle, book bag to hold their reading record, spelling book and reading book and their lunch box (if they are not having school dinners). If you are able to, please provide children with a small pencil case to include a couple of pencils, a rubber (eraser), a pencil sharpener, a glue stick, a pair of child-friendly scissors, a selection of coloured pencils and a whiteboard pen.

PE Days

Please send your child to school wearing their PE kit (they do not need their school uniform to change back into). Long hair should be tied up and no jewellery should be worn - including earrings. Ears that have been recently pierced where earrings cannot be removed will need to be covered.

As a reminder our PE kit is:

- Plain black shorts
- Royal blue polo shirt with or without school logo
- Royal blue hoodie with or without school logo
- Black tracksuit bottoms (colder weather)
- Trainers (not plimsolls)

We will have PE on the following days:

Dolphins - Tuesday and Thursday

Sharks - Wednesday and Thursday

Stingrays - Wednesday and Thursday

The teachers in our phase are:

Mrs Rochelle Stankowski - Dolphins Class Teacher

Miss Claire Pollendine - Sharks Class Teacher, Phase Leader

Mrs Gemma Lockley - Stingrays Class Teacher

The adults supporting in our phase are:

Miss Sue Powell HLTA

Mrs Alison Cowling

Mrs Claire Brown

Mrs Lucy Donald