

Year 5 – Owl Class

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you and your family had a fantastic summer break and are ready for the new school term. We are very much looking forward to the year ahead and working together with you to ensure that the children are happy and succeed in their learning.

This newsletter aims to inform you of the learning and routines of Owl Class so that you are able to help your child settle into Year 5. If you have any questions, please do feel free to come and ask!

Communication

If you do want to contact me, please feel free to leave a message with Mrs Phillips at the front gate, or email the Owl email owl@stmarys.rbksch.org. I regularly use the class page on our school website to upload necessary tools to support learning in Year 5 and examples of the children's learning throughout the year.

Independent Reading



It is vital that children continue to develop their reading skills this year and we ask children to read at home for at least 15 minutes each day. Children may read books of their choice from home, school or the library. All children have been issued with a new reading record

which should be brought to school each day.

Reading records should be kept up to date by the children and we ask that parents sign the reading record each week to confirm that their child has completed their daily independent reading. We will check reading records each week and provide opportunities for pupils who have not completed their reading at home to do so during lunchtime.

Home Learning

Children will be set home learning tasks every Thursday and have until the following Monday to complete the tasks and return their home learning to school. Children who have not completed home learning will be asked to do so in Home Learning Club on Monday lunchtime.

The need to adapt our communication during lockdown has enabled us to review our home learning routines and communication. We will no longer be giving homework books and may be setting more home learning online. If your child might struggle to access a computer at home, please let me know. We will send the instruction sheet via Parentmail each week, along with the weekly spellings. I will have a few paper copies for any child who wishes to take one home.

Spelling home learning

In addition to the weekly home learning task, children will be given 'Words to Learn' spellings each week. Please practise these weekly as they will be tested on it each Friday. As part of reviewing our home learning, we will not be giving spelling homework books.

As the children are now in Year 5, there is a new set of 'Common Exception Words' to learn. These are introduced gradually over their time in Year 5 and 6. A copy of these can be found on the class page and I will send one home in due course. Please look at the weekly homework overview to see which list your child is practising that week. Please continue to practise the Year 3 and 4 Common Exception Words, as your child will continue to need to spell these correctly also!

Times tables learning

Please encourage your child to practise their times tables. It is important for your child to practise their times tables each week to support the different areas of Maths learning in school. A good way to practise these is through 'Times Tables Rockstars' which is an online learning tool that your children will be familiar with. Practising for at least 10 minutes a day will improve your child's fluency greatly!

Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child has a named water bottle to keep in the classroom in addition to their lunchtime drink.



Fruit

Please provide a fresh fruit or vegetable snack for break time as school does not provide this to pupils in Key Stage 2.



P.E.

The class will have P.E. on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays**. Children are expected to have full P.E. kit in order to participate. Earrings should be removed.

Autumn Term Learning

Our topic themes for this term are:

Anglo-Saxons

- English: How to train your dragon (humorous story by Cressida Cowell) Instructions and narrative.
- Science: Materials and their properties
- History: Vikings, Anglo-Saxons and their lives
- Music: Livin' on a Prayer – Bon Jovi.
- DT: Design a carrier – linked to properties of materials
- RE: How did Jesus' teachings challenge people?
- PSHE: New beginnings
Say no to bullying

Settlements

- English: London eye Mystery (Siobhan Dowd) Persuasion linked to Human Geography
- Geography: Human Geography Settlements, places and people
- Art: Significant modern artists
- Music: Christmas Performance
- RE: Why is light an important sign at Christmas?
- PSHE: Getting on and falling out
Say no to bullying

Our Maths work this term will be covering:

- Number and Place Value
- Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division
- Measurement
- Statistics

Children will also have a 30 minute Spanish lesson each week, taught by a specialist Spanish teacher.

Trips and Visits

When we know it is safe to do so, we will let you know about the organisation of trips in Year 5.

Parent Helpers

We welcome offers of help from parents who are willing to hear children read, test times tables, prepare resources and suchlike. For now, we are unable to have parent helpers on site, but we will let you know when we are ready to.

School Uniform

We are delighted to see how smart the children look in their school uniform. Please ensure all items of uniform are clearly labelled.

We hope you find the information in this newsletter useful. Please do come and ask if you have any questions about your child and their learning at school. I always try to be around in the playground at the end of each day to have a quick chat. For a longer discussion, you are always welcome to contact us to make an appointment either directly with myself or by phoning the school office. Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Charlton – Class teacher

Mrs Searle – Teaching Assistant