



Year 5/6 Newsletter – Autumn 1 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely summer break and are all set for the new school year. We are looking forward to working with you and your children this year. The Year 5/6 team this year is:

Y5/6 teachers: Mrs Ward (Topaz class), Miss Smith (Jade class) and Mr Penberthy (Opal class)

Support staff: Mr Trifunovic, Mrs Sebine, Miss Easterby, Mr Tilly, Mr Yeboah and Miss Williamson

Year 5

English – Our key text for writing will be '**Robot Girl**' by Malorie Blackman and our key text for reading will be '**Cosmic**' by Frank Cottrell-Boyce.

Mathematics – We are starting by learning about place value and we will then move on to focus on addition and subtraction.

Year 6

English – Our key text for writing will be '**The Arrival**' by Shaun Tan and our key text for reading will be '**Fly Me Home**' by Polly Ho-Yen.

Mathematics – We are starting by learning about place value and we will then move on to work about the four operations.

RE – Our key question is '**Why do some people believe in God and some do not?**'. We will be looking at reasons for religious beliefs, learning that within religions there is a diversity of belief, and that some people are of no faith.

Science – Our topic in science this half term is '**Classification of Living Things**' which explores how scientists work scientifically and group living things.

Geography – Our key question is 'Would you like to live in the desert' – we will look at the physical properties of deserts and then focus on the human geography of the Mojave Desert.

PSHE – Our topic is '**My Relationships**'. In this unit, we will think developing and maintaining positive friendships.

PE – We will be focussing on **Fitness** and **Outdoor Activities** which includes orienteering.

Music – Our theme in music is '**Music Compositions**'– we will be learning how to read and write simple pitch notation on the staves.

Art – We will be learning about **Painting and Mixed Media** and looking at the work of various celebrated artists, including David Hockney, John Singer Sargent and Paula Rego.

French – We will study the French language version of '**Goldilocks and the Three Bears**'.

Attendance – Attendance and punctuality are very important to us and to the children too. It is essential that children are **at school on time** every day. Children should arrive by 8:50am ready to start their learning. Anyone arriving after the gate is closed should go to the main office to sign in.

Year 5 Homework

Each week, we will send home a short piece of maths and a short piece of English homework. This will be due on **Wednesday**. Please support your child in completing their homework to aid their academic achievement.

Spellings – spellings will be sent home weekly in preparation for the spelling test.

Year 6 Homework

Each week, we will send home a short piece of maths and a short piece of English homework. This will be due on **Wednesday**. Please support your child in completing their homework to aid their academic achievement.

Spellings – spellings will be sent home weekly in preparation for the spelling test.

PE – Children can come to school dressed in their PE clothes. **It must be full PE uniform – black shorts or trousers, a white T-shirt and trainers.** Hoodies may only be worn for the PE lesson; otherwise children should be in their school jumper.

Opal – Monday and Friday

Topaz – Tuesday and Friday

Jade – Monday and Thursday

Reading at Home – Over the next few weeks, children will be sent home with a reading books. Regular reading at home is **essential in Year 6**. Children will have two reading books: one levelled book from the school's reading scheme and one from the library. Please sign your child's reading diary when they read at home. When they have completed their book, children need to return the book **and inform their class teacher** so that the book can be changed.

School shoes – please remember that school shoes need to be black.

Celebrations – in our classes we continue to have a **Recognition Board**. Each week one child who always goes above and beyond with their behaviour, someone who always follows our class rules, will be chosen to attend **Hot Chocolate Friday** with the Senior Leaders. **Let Your Light Shine certificates** will be given out on a Friday in worship.

Important Dates

Wednesday 16th October at 9am - Opal Class Worship in the hall

Tuesday 22nd October - Harvest Festival – KS2 2:30pm - 3:15pm

Thursday 14th November - Come and See Day – 9:15am - 10:15am or 2:15pm - 3:15pm

Come and spend some time in your child's class, see what they are learning, join in with activities and ask any questions that you might have.

Monday 4th November - Staff Training Day – School closed to pupils

Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st November - Pupil Progress Meetings for Parents/Carers

An opportunity to come and speak to your child's class teacher to see how they have settled into the new school year, what they are doing well in and what their personal targets are

Thank you for your continued support,

The Year 5/6 Team