

# Hedgehogs' Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 5!

I hope you have all enjoyed a fantastic summer and that everyone is feeling refreshed and ready for a brand new year. Below is an introduction to the Year 5 team and an overview of topics taught this term. Please keep an eye on the weekly newsletters for key dates and further information. I will teach the children all week except a Wednesday afternoon when the children will be taught by Mrs Douglas and Miss Jarman.

If you do have any questions, comments or concerns then please do not hesitate to come and speak to me either before school or at the end of the day.

We are all looking forward to a great year.

Mrs Wells and Miss Jarman

## Topics Overview

**English** - This term is all about Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. We will be reading the text and looking at small sections of the film to help stimulate writing. The class will be focusing on descriptive writing and persuasive language and towards the end of the term, we will be learning all about instructional and non-chronological report writing. We will also begin to explore more complex punctuation including dashes and brackets as well as revising grammar and punctuation from the Year 4 curriculum.

**Maths** - We will be beginning the term with learning about coordinates and translation of shapes to help us create our own Marauder's Maps linked to our English topic. During the rest of the term, we will be focusing on a variety of different aspects of 'number'. These will include; place value, adding and subtracting numbers with more than 4 digits and Roman numerals to 1000.

**Science** - The class will spend the first three weeks learning about adaptation, life cycles and processes. Then we will move onto magnets and light for the remainder of the term.

**P.E** - This term the children will have PE on a **Tuesday** (football) and **Thursday** (fitness). These sessions will aim to develop their understanding of these sports and the skills required to improve (e.g. hand-eye coordination, spatial awareness, agility). *Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit for these sessions and that long hair is tied back on these days. They should come to school dressed in their kit.*

**R.E** - Our topic for this term will be "What does it mean to be a Methodist in Britain today?". This will involve a range of discussions and activities and the children will be able to: retell the story of John Wesley being saved from the fire as a child; consider why Methodists and other Christians find John Wesley's life an important example today and discuss how should John Wesley inspire us.

**Art** - Our focus will be on Egyptian art this term and the children will look at canopic jars. They will consider the uses and will have a go at designing and making their own. They will also look at portrait work by Pablo Picasso and begin to imitate his style.

**History/Geography** - This term our topic is Ancient Egypt. We will start the term off with an Egyptian themed day to fully immerse ourselves in our topic; the children will look at a variety of aspects which include; hieroglyphics, mummification, Pharaohs and pyramids.

**PSHE** - This term we will be focusing on 'What makes up our identity?' This will involve us thinking about what makes each of us special and unique as well as what it means to be in a community group. We will be considering how to celebrate the differences of the people in the community and to challenge stereotypes.

**Music** - For the majority of this year, the children will be learning how to play the ukulele. These sessions will be taken by Mrs Willmott, the school's guitar teacher, on a Friday afternoon. To begin with Mrs Willmott will be having only half of the class at a time to ensure they get as much tuition as possible.

**French**- We will be learning about music and the French vocabulary associated with this. They will continue to practise their numbers and greetings in French.

### Diary dates

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September - Year 5 Meet the teacher

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September - Bentley photographs

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September - Fruit Run

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October - Year 5 trip to Creed

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October - Parent consultations

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October - Last day of term 1

## Home Learning

### Spellings

Each week the children will be given spellings on a **Thursday** that need to be practised and learnt for a test the following **Tuesday**. Spellings that the children learn will be based upon learning in class as well as from the Y5 and Y6 spelling expectations. They are asked to practise each word a number of times using a variety of spelling techniques. This makes up a significant part of their home learning and I do expect that the children make time to practise and learn their spellings each week.

### Maths Shed

Continuing from last year, our weekly homework will be set on Maths Shed. The children will have a times table task to complete. They need to log on and complete this task each week. This is really helpful to support their fluency in maths and also make lots of the methods we will be learning in Year 5, much easier!

### Reading

Regular reading should still be taking place at home. Now that the children are older this does not need to be reading aloud to an adult every day but it is expected that the children will be reading and recording this in their contact books at least three times per week. The children can read a combination of their school reading books as well as their own books from home, the class book corner or the library.

### Additional (optional) Learning

The children could spend some time researching Ancient Egypt and which relics are still in existence that can tell us about life during that period of time.