



September 2021

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome to Class 5! I am really looking forward to another year filled with new achievements and experiences. Alongside an enriching curriculum that requires the children becoming everything from historians to designers to codebreakers, we will continue to work on personal wellbeing and our understanding of the wider world.

As always, we will be working on developing a positive growth mindset, being independent learners and working hard to achieve their goals, whatever they may be. I have no doubt that, with our School Values in mind, great achievements and progress will be made throughout the year in all areas of the curriculum and wider school life.

Below is an outline of key information that will be needed for this first school term.

Reading

Reading is, as always, an important focus for us. Children should read **four times a week at least**. Your child should write in their Home/School Diary when they read, but it must be signed by an adult at home every week. When writing in their diaries, the children are encouraged to give a gist of what they have read. I will be checking through diaries on a **Monday** to check reading is happening. Please ensure that your child has their reading book and Home/School Diary with them **every day**. Remember, a book is something to experience and enjoy and I love to hear about the different books that your children are reading.

Homework

In year 5, the children are given 2 pieces of homework alongside spellings each week. Homework will be given to the children **every Tuesday and Thursday (with spellings being handed out on a Thursday too)** to be completed for the **same day the following week**. Homework tasks should take up to 30 minutes and will normally be literacy or numeracy based with, occasionally, links to the wider curriculum. If it is taking longer or your child has needed additional support from you to complete it, please let me know by adding a note under the piece of work.

Maths

Times tables are a vital part of the maths curriculum, weaving themselves into many different units within the curriculum. With this in mind, it is really important that children are confident in them and can recall all times tables up to 12 x 12. Last year, the children worked really hard to develop their times table knowledge, and we want to continue this development this year. **5 or 10 minute bursts** throughout the week can help children to consolidate their times tables. Likewise, time can be a challenging area of the curriculum for children to understand, so building time into conversations is really beneficial for this skill development.

Spellings

Spellings will be given out **every Thursday** and a spelling test will be carried out the **following Thursday**. The number of words will continue to be 20. Children are expected to practise their spellings regularly. They can use the sheets to practise or find other exciting ways to learn. Spellings will be sent home in their books alongside that week's homework.

PE

Class 5 will have PE on **Wednesday** and **Thursday**; these sessions will include Tag Rugby outside on a Wednesday, with gymnastics being covered in the hall on a Thursday. Please ensure that your child has school PE kit on these days. As Rugby will be outside (weather permitting), tracksuit bottoms and top are advisable. Please make sure that girls come to school with hair tied back on PE days, or have a bobble available so that they can tie it back themselves. Children will not be permitted to wear jewellery during PE lessons so please ensure that your child can remove any earrings. If this isn't possible, children will be provided with tape to cover.

If you have any concerns or questions about anything please feel free to contact the school office to make an appointment or write a note into the home school diary. If you do this, please ensure you let your child know that they need to hand it in to me. I am really looking forward to meeting you all.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Hartwright