

Severn Class Newsletter Autumn 2018

Welcome back! I hope you have had a lovely, relaxing summer break and are ready to work hard as part of Severn Class. We are looking forward to an exciting year...

Mr Holley will teach on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday with Mrs Butcher teaching on a Wednesday. On a Wednesday afternoon, Mrs Steward will teach French and Miss Kay will teach P.E. Mrs Ellis will assist the class on Monday mornings and Mrs Steward will be with the class for the rest of the week. Mrs Blackbrough will continue to teach GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spellings) to Year 4's every day for 20 minutes.

English

There will be a continued focus on handwriting and presentation this year as well as improving writing, both the quality and quantity with a range of genres studied. All children will begin the year writing in pencil and will have to earn the right to use a pen and achieve a pen licence. A range of genres will be studied including: a report, a recount, poetry, narrative writing-fiction and non-fiction and these will link to the objectives for both Years 4 and 5, as well as the topic being taught, starting with Vikings and a study of the book 'How to Train Your Dragon.'

Reading:

Reading will take place every day in school with children continuing to choose books from the library and be tested on then when completed as part of the continuing accelerated reading programme. Children are encouraged to keep a reading record of books read both at home and in school and hand it in each day for checking. Two house points will be awarded to every child who has managed to read at least 4 out of 5 nights at home or 5 out of the 7 nights including once at the weekend. Please feel free to comment on your child's reading progress in their reading record and do initial or sign any reading completed either independently or with an adult at home. This record can also be used as a home/school book in order to communicate any messages to/from school. In school, we will be encouraging children to read a range of different texts by different authors in order to extend their vocabulary, range and knowledge of writing structures that they will then be able to put into their own writing. Guided reading in groups will take place once per week for every child with children being involved in different reading activities throughout the week. As noted above, GPS will be taught every day for 20 minutes and will link into the English lessons.

Spellings

Half termly lists of 10 weekly spellings will be sent out to practice at home and be tested on a Friday (5 of a particular pattern and 5 from the 100 word list for Years 3 and 4 (for Year 4 children) and from the 100 word list for Years 5 and 6 (for Year 5 children), a random 2 of the 10 spellings will also be added to the test the following week too, so 12 spellings will actually be tested weekly. These will also be available on the school website. Children are encouraged to use the look, say, cover, write, check method at home each week and focus on the words they find harder to spell as well as look up the meaning of the words.

Science

Year 5's will be taught science on Tuesday afternoons by Mr Holley beginning with 'Getting sorted' followed by 'Everyday materials'. At the same time Year 4's will investigate 'Good Vibrations' then 'Switched on' with Mr Brown.

Topic

Our topics for the Autumn term are based around the theme of 'Buried Treasure', firstly studying the Vikings and after half term focusing on the Anglo Saxons.

Computing

E-safety then coding will be taught by each week and the children will complete research work as part of their topic and science lessons too. E-safety lessons will be used to teach the children how to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly and will re-examine ways to report concerns and inappropriate behaviour.

P.E

Miss Kay will begin by teaching the children hockey on a Wednesday afternoon. Swimming begins on Monday 17th September and continues every Monday afternoon for the rest of the autumn term for all Year 4 and 5s.

R.E

Mrs Butcher will explore the key question: 'What do different people believe about God?' before moving on to 'What kind of king is Jesus?' Followed by the final focus of the term, which is Incarnation – 'What is the Trinity?' and Experience Christmas at Church.

P.S.H.E

Every week with Mrs Blackbrough the class will look at an aspect of personal, social and health education through different topics starting with dealing with bullying.

French

Mrs Steward will be teaching the children the numbers up to 50 and the days of the week, the months of the year and about the weather. They will then learn to talk and write about their day (Waking up, getting dressed) which will also include on the hour time and breakfast in France.

Music

Year 5 children will learn to play the cornet on Tuesdays from 18th September for the whole of the year, with Year 4s learning to play the fife with Mrs Daniels. The year will culminate in a performance for parents by the Year 5s.

Homework

Following on from work completed in class, Maths homework will be set on a Friday, to be handed in on the following Tuesday. Regular practice of times tables is also important in order to increase confidence for problem solving and these will be tested weekly (but not on a set day). There will be a weekly focus on learning a particular spelling pattern as well as words from year group lists to be tested on a Friday. A spelling book will be used in school to record and monitor the spellings. A house point will be awarded to those who succeed in spelling all their words correctly.

Equipment:

The children should have a named P.E kit in school at ALL times, including a plain white t-shirt, navy shorts and pumps. This kit should not be taken home during the half term unless necessary as children need their kit in school at all times. Pencil cases are not necessary in school as children will be provided with all the equipment they need but children can bring in items of their own but they must be able to be stored in their drawers and are brought in at their own risk. Named water bottles should be sent into school for daily use and will be sent home at the end of each day.

Walking home from school (Year 5 children):

If you are happy to give permission for your child to walk home from school then please send a signed permission note into school as soon as possible so that we know where your child is if we do not hand them over to a family member at the end of the school day.

Please do not hesitate to contact any of us if you have any queries, concerns or information to pass on.

The Severn Class Team:

Mr Holley (Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays)

Mrs Butcher (Wednesdays)

Mrs Steward (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays)

Mrs Ellis (Monday mornings)

Mrs Bindley (Every morning and Friday afternoon)

Miss Kay (P.E every Wednesday afternoon)