

Dear children, parents and carers,

Welcome back! I really hope you all had a relaxing Easter with relaxing start and are well rested ready for the new term.

Our learning journey up until July will see us reading *Journey to the River Sea* by Eva Ibbotson and *The Highwayman* poem by Alfred Noyes as our core class texts. We will be using it to write for a range of purposes including recounts, diaries, narratives, One sided arguments and poetry. At sentence level work we will continue to explore parenthesis, apostrophes, semi colons, colons, commas, tenses and cohesion across paragraphs. In maths, our core focus will be on decimals and percentages, area and perimeter, statistics, shape, position and direction, negative numbers, measurements and converting units.

Our Geography will see us exploring North and South America with a focus on Brazil and Rainforests looking at forest biomes/features of rainforest, tropical and temperate rainforests, settlement and land use, changing land use using maps/aerial photographs to compare and the human impact on environment.

Mr Tanner will be teaching Class 5's PE on Monday afternoons so please ensure your child comes to school in PE kit (navy blue shorts/skorts, joggers and house colour top only please).

This term our value is 'Friendship' and after the June half term 'Respect'. Worship time in school will focus on this.

Home Learning

Starting this term, homework will now be completed on Doodle. Children need to spend between 5-10 minutes x 5 a week on both Doodle maths and spelling. The aim for children is to be in the green zone on the little Doodle petrol gauge on screen. Assignments will also be set on Doodle for homework. Doing these would be part of their daily Doodle time and would contribute to them keeping their Doodle gauge in the green. The children's passwords and usernames are in their reading records. Please note that Doodle is a bespoke learning platform which learns at your child's speed and is tailored to their needs based on the Baseline assessments carried out in class. We would encourage the children Doodle independently if at all possible.

Time tables

Children are encouraged to use TTRS for practicing their times tables every day where possible for 5 minutes. Garage is useful to test children on times tables the algorithm has deemed need practice. Regular practice keeps speed and retention of answers quick and gives children a strong basis to use in their maths lessons. Log ins will remain the same as last year but if you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Children have also got access to Doodle times tables to practise on as well.

Reading

Our expectation is that children read each day for at least 10-15 minutes. Children can read independently or to an adult daily. We expect every child to record their daily reading, even if it's just a short note, so that we can keep track of their progress. Please support your child by reminding them to complete this task each day - thank you.

Spellings

Spellings will work a little differently this year. The children will continue to practise spelling rules in school and build them into their writing (as per the overview and in line with the National Curriculum) but will not bring home spellings to practise for weekly tests as they did previously. We are looking to try and apply their spelling into their free writing rather than just through set weekly tests and really focus on the rules. There will be spelling tests in school based on these rules but they will not be set weekly and we will analyse the rules they need to work on. You can still support with this at home as the children still have access to Spelling Shed via <https://play.spellingshed.com>. It would be great for the children to continue to use this platform to familiarise and consolidate Year 5/6 spellings and rules as they will use these in class during the year.

General Reminders

Forest School sessions:

Wednesday 17th April

Tuesday 14th May

Wednesday 12th June

Wednesday 10th July.

Please add these dates to your calendar so your child remembers their kit! ☺

Thank you again for all your support and here's to a brilliant Summer term!

Miss Thomas