

Dear children, parents and carers,

Welcome back! I really hope you all had a joyful Christmas with relaxing start to the New Year and are well rested ready for the new term.

Our learning journey up until Easter will see us reading Beowulf as our core class text. We will be using it to write for a range of purposes including newspapers, letters, character descriptions and our own myths and legends. At sentence level work we will continue to explore parenthesis, modal verbs, inverted commas, standard and non-standard English, tenses and cohesion across paragraphs. In maths, our core focus will be on fractions, multiplication and division (formal written methods), decimals and percentages, area and perimeter and statistics.

Our History will take us to Anglo Saxon and Viking Britain!

The class overview of learning will be displayed on the class webpage: <http://www.akps.org.uk/classes/class-5/>

There will be a class stay and share session on Wednesday 4th March at 2:45pm giving you a chance to look at your child's books and talk about the things they are learning together before the spring term parents' evenings.

Year 5 will be having their PE session on Thursday afternoons. Children are welcome to come to school wearing their PE kit.

This term our value is 'courage' and after the February half term 'forgiveness'. Worship time in school will focus on this.

Home Learning

Homework this year will focus on reading and maths. Children need to spend between 5-10 minutes x 5 a week on Doodle maths. The aim for children is to be in the green zone on the little Doodle petrol gauge on screen. Assignments will also be set weekly 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.

Reading

Our expectation is that children read each day for at least 15-20 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.

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.

Spellings

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 have access to Doodle spellings.

General Reminders

PE is on Thursday afternoon.

Class stay and share session on Wednesday 4th March at 2:45pm

Forest School sessions:

Tuesday 20th January and Wednesday 11th March

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 2026

Miss Thomas