

Newsletter - Spring Term 2025

OSPREY and BUZZARD CLASSES

Happy New Year, and welcome back to a new term! All of us in Year 5 are looking forward to another happy and productive term together.

In our daily English lessons, we will be reading two more novels – *How To Train Your Dragon* by Cressida Cowell and *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman. We will be studying a range of reading comprehension techniques as well as continuing to develop our reading fluency. Alongside our novels, we will also be studying a range of non-fiction text types, including non-chronological reports and explanation texts. We will be continuing our grammar work looking at adding information to sentences, for example adding relative clauses or using parenthesis (brackets, dashes and commas). Weekly spellings will be given to the children on Mondays and tested the following Friday.

Within our maths lessons, we will be completing our multiplication and division work as well as looking at problem solving. We will then move on to applying the skills that we have been learning, for example using our knowledge from the year, so far, to solve problems involving decimals and percentages. Later in the term, we are going to be working out the perimeter and area of rectilinear and compound shapes. There will be regular arithmetic tests so please continue to encourage your child to use Times Tables Rock Stars and practise their number bonds. The tests will be in a written format and the children will be given a time limit to complete them.

Our first topic this term will be the Vikings, focusing on key events in the Viking invasion and settlement of Britain and the everyday life of a Viking. In the second half-term, our topic will have a Science focus and will be Earth and Space, then Forces. The children will learn about the Earth, Sun and Moon, and the planets that make up our solar system. The Forces topic will allow more opportunities for the children to carry out investigations and draw conclusions from their findings.

The children will have a weekly RE lesson, within which they will study two world religions – Christianity and Sikhism. We will be looking closely at the significance and importance of Sikh stories, before moving on to studying Holy Week and Christians' beliefs about the crucifixion.

In our PSHE sessions, the children will be thinking about their dreams and goals for the future before moving on to learning more about how we can stay healthy. We will be learning about the dangers of smoking and alcohol as well as how to respond in emergency situations. We will also be looking at the importance of mental health, thinking about body image and how we deal with the pressures we face every day.

In computing, our topics will be iDraw – exploring how images are made from shapes and lines – and iCrypto – exploring data encryption.

In art, the children will become familiar with the terms 'landscape' and 'cityscape', where we will be exploring the work of two British artists and emulating their styles in our work.

In French, our topics will be 'Do You Have a Pet?' and 'Planets'. We are going to be learning more about how to use adjectives in French, both where they should be within sentences, how they need to agree with the verbs and how to use comparative adjectives to describe objects.

We would like to take the opportunity to remind you of the correct equipment that your child must have at school at all times. It is essential that your child has his or her own pencil case which must contain a pencil, 30cm ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener and black ink handwriting pen once they have their pen licence. Please ensure that your child's equipment is sensible and will not distract themselves or others from their work. It is also important that your child has the correct uniform and that it is clearly labelled with their name.

Concerning homework, the children are expected to read daily at home and to learn their weekly spellings and times tables, using Times Tables Rock Stars. They will receive homework using spag.com and/or maths.co.uk, every Friday, which they will need to complete digitally. We are always happy to go over any of the work if needed, just come and see us – we greatly appreciate your help and support with all of the work your child does at home.

The weekly spellings and lots of information about the work that we are doing each week can be found in the '[Weekly Class Information](#)' section of the school website.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mr I Gonzalez, Mrs F Azmi and Mr P Vincent