



Welcome to Foxes Class Newsletter for Term 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Foxes Class. We hope you all had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to this coming year as much as we are. I look forward to meeting you all at our meet the teacher afternoon. Don't worry if you cannot attend, the slides will be put onto the school website. The children have had a fantastic start to the year and have already worked so hard and settled in well. Mrs Morton, Miss Reece, Mrs Foster and I are enjoying teaching the children and getting to know them all. We have an exciting year ahead and we look forward to working with you for the benefit of the children. Year 5 are extremely lucky and will be kicking off the school year with a school trip to Rochester Cathedral to visit the dragon sculpture. This trip will be on the 18th September and is completely free of charge. More information will be sent out shortly.

If you have any questions, I will be available after school (apart from Wednesdays) or please feel free to email the school office and they will forward the message on.

Our Curriculum

Our theme for Humanities is 'Awesome Earth'. We are learning about the Earth and the environment. During this theme children will explore climate change and the effect it is having on the planet. We will be looking at earthquakes, tsunamis and we will even be building our own volcanoes (and making them erupt of course). We will be using atlases and studying specific case studies of natural disasters from around the world.



Our English lesson are going to look a bit different this term. We will be doing the Place Value of Grammar and Punctuation scheme for this term. This will give the children a crash course in Grammar and Punctuation, which will help them with their writing in future.



In Science, our theme is Forces. This term we will be learning about what forces are before studying gravity, friction and air resistance in more detail. This topic includes lots of practical experiments where the children can see the forces in action and experiment with how to change effect that force. We will complete a case study on Isaac Newton and his contributions to Physics.

Long term homework is not set formally but if your child is interested in researching something related to our humanities or science topics, they are more than welcome to do so and share their findings with the class. This could be a PowerPoint, poster, pictures and facts or model, for example.

Further information about our curriculum can be found on the school website.

Mathematics

For Maths, we use the Whiterose scheme of learning. This term we will be learning about place value followed by addition and subtraction. We will be revising what the children have learnt previously and building upon this to work with numbers up to one million.



All children also need to be practising their timetables (using TT Rockstars). Login details can be found in the front of their reading record books. All children also need to be practising their timetables (using TT Rockstars). Login details can be found in the front of their reading record books. The children will complete a minimum of one soundcheck, 5 Studio games and 5 Garage games each week. This should take around 11 minutes and can be completed at home or at school. The children will receive 5 house points for completing them all and the whole class will receive 5 class points if they all complete their allotted sessions.



Weekly Spellings

We are now using Spelling Shed to teach and practice spellings. They will have a 30 minute lesson every Tuesday which will focus on a spelling rule or pattern, followed by spelling activities throughout the week linked to the spelling rule or pattern being studied.

A list of the spelling rules/patterns will be sent home weekly with the children, sometimes along with optional activities for them to complete. The terms spellings will also be made available on the class page of the school website.

Each Monday your child will have a spelling test based on the spelling patterns from the week before. We may also include spellings from previous weeks as well as the Year 5 common exception words that we will also be practising in school. They will complete their test in spelling books which will be marked and then sent home for you to share. New spellings will be sent home each Tuesday to be practised during the week at home and tested the following week in school.

Pupils will also have a Spelling Shed account, that gives them access to the online games which will support them in learning the weekly spellings. We would like children to spend **at least 10 minutes per week** playing these games as it will really help strengthen their recall.

A Parent Guide is available here: <https://play.edshed.com/en-gb/login>

Further information will be available at the Meet the Teacher meeting on Monday 9th September

PE- Year 5 PE day is Thursday

Our PE topic this term will be netball. We will be learning basic techniques such as passing, catching and shooting. We will put all of our learning into practice with mini games where the children learn the rules of netball as well as good sportsmanship. Please can you make sure your child has the right PE kit. No earrings are to be worn on PE days unless your child can take them out themselves, they will need a small pot to keep them safe. Our PE lessons will be outside this term- if it not raining- so please ensure your child has tracksuit bottoms for the colder weather, even if they keep them in their locker just in case.

Reading

In Year 5, we continue to use the Accelerated Reading programme. Please use the following link to sign up for email notifications for Home Connect. You will then receive an email each time your child complete a quiz in school. You will also be able to find out how they are doing with their termly reading targets.

<https://ukhosted27.renlearn.co.uk/6706259/HomeConnect>



We have an accelerated reading session each day in class, so please ensure your child brings their reading book and reading record into school every day.

Cooking

As part of our DT curriculum, all of the children will get the opportunity to take part in cooking lessons with Mrs Siggers in the kitchen. The children will not all go at the same time and may not cook until the end of the year. The children have been split into groups and each group will attend six sessions across the term. When it is your child's turn, you will receive a letter with all of the details. In order to cover the cost of the ingredients, we are asking for a contribution of £5 per child. This only needs to be paid when it is your child's turn. They will also need to bring in a Tupperware box each week to take home their cooking.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact myself via the school office.

Kind Regards,

Miss Hipkiss