

Happy New Year!

Merlin Class Spring 2021 Newsletter

Dear Year 5 families,

I've put together this information pack for you about important information for the Spring term. Most of this information will be familiar from our previous newsletter but these are just key reminders for you all.

Contact Information

We always want to know if there is something troubling you or your child but with social distancing measures in place on the playground, it will not be possible for parents to speak at the start or end of the school day.

For any urgent concerns, please call the school office to arrange a phone conversation with myself or Mrs Henderson. For any general questions or enquiries please either write a note in your child's reading record or send an email to the school office. We will get back to you as soon as we are able to.

All general information and reminders from us will be through the MarvellousMe app so please ensure you check this daily. It is helpful for us to know you have read a message by 'high-five'-ing it. If you have any problems with logging in, please contact myself or Mrs Henderson.

Classroom Management

Expectations

Our school's behaviour management policy has now changed due to the needs and changes for this school year. I will summarise it as best I can in a few points for what this will look like in our classroom:

- Our classroom atmosphere will be positive and full of praise towards good learning behaviour. (resilience, relationships, resourcefulness and reflection)
- Children are part of teams within the classroom and can earn points towards a group reward such as free time or another agreed reward.
- Children will be praised for their effort in lessons and through notes on MarvellousMe to parents.
- Children are able to choose a piece of work they are proud of to take a picture with and send home on Tapestry.
- Children will be expected to maintain a 2 metre distance from adults in the classroom and abide by handwashing and sanitising routines.

Consequences

Hopefully, there will be no reasons for me to contact yourself about your child's choices at school, however there may be times that we are concerned about something that is said in lessons or the choices they have made at school.

We will contact you by phone either during or after school if an issue arises. If you are unavailable we will leave you a message to give you an approximate time we may attempt to recall you. In most cases, minor incidents will be dealt with by myself in class or by the member of senior leadership that is available at the time. Only for these more serious issues will we make contact with you:

- Refusal to follow social distancing and health and safety rules.
- Any instances of bullying or discrimination against others
- Injury or harassment of another child
- Continual and frequent low level problems that impact on the learning of others or destruction of property or classroom resources.

Please read the full school policy available on the website for any further information.

Communication

Reading Records

Children must bring reading records into school daily. They are able to record their reading at home themselves but it MUST be initialled or signed by an adult for me to count the reads in school. You may also use the reading record to communicate any questions or concerns with myself or Mrs Henderson.

Tapestry

This website is a learning journal where we will be adding images, videos and voice recordings of your child's work. Please make sure you return the user agreement allowing for group photos involving your child as this will allow us to share more of their wonderful work with you. We also ask that Topic projects also be added here rather than brought into school. We will then still be able to share them with the class.

Homework

Maths

Mathletics tasks will be set at the start of the half-term with the expectation that at least two of these must be completed each week. If your child gets less than 80% on their tasks, they will be re-set for your child after we have supported them in school for this learning. Your child may choose to complete more than two tasks at a time but please be aware that if we have not yet covered that content then they may find some tasks too difficult to tackle straight away.

TTRockstars is expected to be used each week and our leader board in school updated with their latest speeds. As we work our way through times tables in school we will set the occasional challenge or task on this website. Please encourage your child to practice frequently to improve their mental arithmetic skills.

Reading

It is encouraged that children read at home daily. Now that they are in year 5 they are able to write in their own reading record and read on their

own. We would suggest that you still listen to them read as often as possible to make sure they are still understanding their reading and having regular conversations with them about the book they are reading at the moment. Please also initial or sign their reading record often to confirm that your child is being accurate in their record keeping.

Topic

There will still be a topic related homework set for each half term. These will need to be submitted on Tapestry rather than brought into school for the first two pieces of topic homework. If you have any queries about this, then please send in a note or email the school office.

Daily Schedule

8.40am - Doors open - Enter school by the Year 5 fire doors.
8:50am - Registration
8:55am - Mental arithmetic
9:20am - Maths
10:20am - Break
10:35am - Reading
11:30am - English
12:30pm - Lunch
1:30pm - Class assembly
1:40pm - Spelling and Grammar time
2:15pm - Wider Curriculum
3:20pm - Home time

PE

PE is on a Monday afternoon. Children are expected to come to school in their PE kits on this day. Please ensure they are dressed suitably as most PE lessons will be held outdoors.

Fridays

On a Friday, Mrs Henderson will be teaching the class. It is also the same day as our spelling test.

Please get in touch with any concern you may have. We hope you have had a wonderful Christmas holidays and are ready for another term of school!

Miss S. Woodcock
Year 5 Class Teacher
Creative Arts Leader

Mrs Henderson
Year 5 HLTA
RE Leader

Year 5 Autumn Term Curriculum

<h2 style="text-align: center;">English</h2>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Maths</h2>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Reading</h2>
<p>Fiction: <i>Suspense Tales based on Zelda Claw</i></p> <p>Non-Fiction: <i>Non-Chronological reports based on Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find them by JK Rowling</i></p>	<p>Multiplication and Division written methods</p> <p>Fractions</p>	<p>Focus Text: <i>Varjak Paw by S.F. Said</i></p> <p><i>Afterwards: Wolf Brother by Michelle Paver</i></p>
<h2 style="text-align: center;">Science</h2>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Where in the World?</h2> <h3 style="text-align: center;">Geography focus</h3>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Geography</h2>
<p>Forces</p> <p>Know what gravity and resistance are and identify balanced and unbalanced forces.</p> <p>Compose scientific enquiry questions</p> <p>Plan an investigation.</p> <p>Identify variables that need to change and that need to stay constant.</p> <p>Record data using a 'best of three' approach.</p>		<p>Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom, a region in a European country (Italy), and a region within North America (Washington DC).</p> <p>Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied.</p>
<h2 style="text-align: center;">DT</h2>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Music</h2>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">PE</h2>
<p>Creating and designing a soft toy for a child.</p>	<p>Fiddle time course - Cello and Violin lessons</p>	<p>Spring 1: Orienteering</p> <p>Spring 2: Dance</p>
<h2 style="text-align: center;">Spanish</h2>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">RE</h2>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Computing</h2>
<p>Understand the culture of Mexico (festivals etc).</p> <p>Conversations and written simple sentences.</p>	<p>Hinduism: What can stories and images of deities tell us about Hindu beliefs?</p> <p>Family - welcoming a baby</p>	<p>Unit 5.1: Coding</p> <p>Unit 5.3: Spreadsheets</p>