



**West Hill Primary School**  
(a partner in the SMILE Learning Trust)  
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**Headteacher: Cheryl Boulton**



## **CLASS 5 INFORMATION & CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER**

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 5! It was lovely to see the children looking so smart and happy to be back at school on the first day and they have made a very positive start to the year.

Due to the DfE guidance with regards to the implementing of the Covid-19 Risk Assessment for our school we will be unable to have a 'Meet the Teacher Evening' as normal. As a result, this letter is to inform you about key information specific to Class 5, the main learning areas during the autumn term, as well as offer some guidance on how you can support your child's learning.

### **Class 5 Information**

#### **Adults who will be working with your child:**

Mrs Tovey will teach the class on Mondays and Tuesdays and Mrs Bedford will teach the children on Wednesdays to Fridays. Mrs Quincey will support Class 5 throughout the week in writing lessons and work one to one or with small groups on focussed tasks. On alternate weeks, Madame Shackleton will be teaching French and Mrs Harris will be teaching RE. Dance will be led by Miss Murray and Chris Webster will be teaching outdoor PE.

#### **Weekly teaching of subjects:**

Mrs Tovey will teach English (writing, reading comprehension, handwriting, grammar), Maths (number (+, -, X, ÷), fractions, decimals, percentages), History, Geography, PSHE and PE. Mrs Bedford will teach English (writing, spellings), Maths (problem solving, measurement, geometry), Science, Art & Design, Design & Technology, Music, PE and computing.

#### **Expectations of the children:**

- Children need to arrive on time each day, with the right equipment. (pencil cases, reading book, home school diary, homework, instruments, packed lunches, inhalers, medicines etc.)
- Their PE kit needs to be in school on Tuesdays and Fridays, as well as other days if your child attends clubs.
- Homework must be handed in on time.
- Children are expected to try their best in all that they do and work towards greater independence



## **Our main focus in Class 5:**

- We aim in the autumn term to work on the foundations of the children's work with the aim of getting the basics right. This will include grammar, punctuation, spelling and written presentation in all subjects. Children will be working to ensure that written work is well structured, displays good meaning and thought about the audience. We also want the children to display a positive growth mindset and confidence in their own ability.

## **Homework:**

- Weekly maths homework will be set on a Thursday to be tested or applied the following Thursday.
- Weekly English homework will be set on a Monday to be handed in the following Monday. Please feel free to help your child with this, and look at it with them at the end. It is useful to know how much help they have received!
- The children are expected to learn spellings each week and to use this as an opportunity to practise their handwriting. This work is set on a Thursday and tested the following Thursday.
- All children will have a reading book and daily reading is encouraged. Books can be chosen from the school or class library as well as being brought from home.
- On occasions there might be other homework that arises such as sometimes class work may need to be finished off or a mini project may be set.

We are very happy for homework to be handed in before the due day.

*Could we please ask that you sign the homework diary weekly so that we know you have seen the homework set. In theory, the children should be independent and ask you to sign their book but they may need a reminder.*

## **Curriculum**

### **English**

In English we will be studying a range of genres: fiction writing (story structure, openings, characterisation and endings), poetry and non-fiction (biography and diary writing).

Spelling lessons will be linked to the children's spelling homework and reflect the Year 5 requirements. The children will also have personalised spellings linked to assessment activities and class work. Support in the correct use of these in written homework will be greatly appreciated.

A daily reading routine is vitally important. As they become more independent, confident readers, they need to become more aware of inferred meanings and the writing techniques used by the author. This will directly feed into their writing. We have asked the children to make sure that they discuss their reading at least twice a week with an adult to help them pick up on themes, language and other subtleties that could otherwise be missed. If you could put a record of this in their Home School Diaries, it would be much appreciated.

### **Maths**

In Maths the children will be starting with place value before moving on to the four rules, fractions and decimals. We will also have a strong emphasis on problem solving, developing strategies to tackle real life problems and explaining our thinking mathematically. They will also be studying

measurement and geometry. Weekly homework will reflect the Year 5 requirements and take a variety of forms which will be explained in their maths homework book.

### **Science**

Mrs Bedford will be teaching science. Our two main topics this term are the Earth & Space and Forces. The children will be learning about the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system, how the Earth's rotation creates day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky. Details involving a research project about a planet of your child's choice will be sent home later.

Our forces topic will be studied with a strongly practical and investigative approach and explore the effects of forces, in particular, gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction. They will go on to learn about mechanisms that allow smaller forces to have a greater effect.

### **Computing**

We begin the year with some graphic modelling followed by coding. The children will also be using their computing skills across all subjects to research and embed their learning.

### **History and Geography**

Our focus this term is Greece and its ancient civilisation. This is a great topic, rich in culture, mythology and opportunities for art and drama. Any relevant research material, books or artefacts that you may have at home would be most welcome.

### **RE**

This term in RE our focus will be Faith and the Arts.

### **PE**

This half term our indoor PE session will be dance with Katie Murray. The children are learning about the musical 'Matilda'. Due to the new restrictions there will be **no** live showing of their routine at the end of half term but we hope to record their work and share online, more details later. Our outdoors session on a Tuesday will begin with the key skills in various different invasion games. The children need to have full kit in school at all times (green shorts, white T-shirt, trainers/plimsolls). As the weather gets colder, smart, plain tracksuits may be brought in for our outdoor lessons on Tuesdays.

### **Art & Design**

This term the children will be studying the work of Van Gogh and Pablo Picasso. The children will be creating iconic images through the use of clay, observational drawing, colour mixing and other collage materials. **Please can your child bring in an old named art shirt as many activities will be very messy.**

*We also have a visiting artist booked for after half term and will send more details to you later.*

## **Music**

Our focus will be on learning to play musically with increased confidence and control. As a whole class we will be learning to play Toots. We have loaned a class set so each child will have their own instrument and the lessons will be taking place socially distanced outside. The children will learn to play pieces of music, some in preparation for sharing with others at some point in the future.

If you have any concerns during the term, please do not hesitate to make contact with us via the school office or a note in the homework diary. We look forward to working with you to ensure a happy and successful year for your child.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Bedford

Mrs S Tovey

Year 5 Class Teachers