



# HAWK CLASS

## TERM 1 NEWSLETTER

Dear parents,

We hope that you have had a wonderful summer and that you are refreshed and ready for the new school year.

### **TEACHERS AND TEACHING ASSISTANTS**

Our teaching team remains unchanged, with Mrs Tilsley taking the class on Monday and Mr Riddington with the children for the rest of the week. We are delighted that Mrs Baxter and Mrs Choyce will also have time with the class to support children with their learning.

### **NEW TO HAWKS?**

Routines are very similar to those in Swallow class.

- **COMING TO SCHOOL.** Children enter the school by the corridor doors closest to the main school gate.
- **PEGS.** These are found in the rooms leading to the Key Stage 2 toilets.
- **START OF DAY.** On arrival in the classroom, pupils will need to get their spellings books, rulers and either a pencil or pen so that we are ready for our spellings sessions.
- **PENCIL CASES.** Pupils are allowed to bring in their own pencil cases. However, they do not need to do so as the school will provide the necessary materials to carry out the tasks set. Pencil cases must be small enough to fit into the child's tray and should not be a distraction during lessons.
- **BREAK AND LUNCH.** Times will remain the same as last year.
- **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.** Children will have the opportunity to stand for election as a house captain and vice-captain as well as a school councillor. Positions as members of the library and worship team will also be available. Year 6 children will have a buddy in Wren class.

### **ENQUIRY**

We are continuing our enquiry-led approach to our Foundation Subjects.

The first enquiry is called 'How do we all live together?' As historians, children will learn about the Ancient Greeks and democracy.

As artists, we will initially focus on drawing, starting with 3D shapes before moving

on to sketching animals. This will then develop into drawing mythological monsters.

We will be joined by Madame Fuller on Wednesday afternoons, who will be providing French lessons that will have a strong focus on description.

## **HOMEWORK**

Following a review of our homework, we are changing our approach in Hawk class. Rather than using the jigsaw system, we will be providing our pupils with homework books for English and Maths. They will be asked to do work from these books and bring them in – together with their home reading record - on Thursday morning.

In addition to the work in the homework books, we ask that children do the following:

- **TIMES TABLES** – Being fluent in times tables facts is crucial in Hawk class. So much of what we learn requires a good knowledge of times table facts. Regular practice at home is strongly recommended if multiplication facts are not secure. If your child is not fluent, regular daily practice is encouraged.
- **SPELLINGS**. We will continue to send home spelling sheets that will need to be practised at home each term.
- **READING**. Most children in Years 5 and 6 are able to read independently, but please do not leave them to it all the time! Research has shown that children who continue to have parental support with reading and comprehension can make better rates of progress. Please continue to read to your children as well: they will benefit from hearing stories that may be too challenging for them to read at present. Reading to them will also broaden their vocabulary.

## **TIME FOR READING**

As is the case with the other classes in the school, we like to celebrate the reading that takes place at home. To do this we need your help. The children will all be given a reading record in September which needs to be completed whenever they have a reading experience at home. Many parents may find it hard to write down a comment each time their child reads. Please do not worry about this. All we need is a date and a signature to show that your child has been reading. For every date that is signed and dated by you, your child can add to our reading wallchart and be celebrated for achieving the termly target.

## **P.E.**

P.E. days will be Thursday and Friday initially this term. Children should come to school wearing their PE kits on these days.

## **ADVANCE WARNING: SCHOOL TRIP TO LONDON**

On November 10<sup>th</sup>, we will be visiting both the Science and Natural History Museums in London. As both venues are some distance away, we will need our children to be in school at 7am and will be returning at approximately 7pm.

## **SWIMMING**

Swimming lessons on Tuesdays, starting on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and concluding on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. A letter will be sent out shortly with full details. On 'swimming weeks' there is no need for children to come to school in games kit on Fridays.

## **SATS**

We will keep you informed about next year's exams and will have a meeting as the year progresses.

## **CLOTHING**

Please do not forget to label all of your child's clothes, checking for any faded names on labels as the year progresses. Some pupils in Year 5 and 6 will be increasingly responsible with regards to their belongings when they reach the top of the school; others will already be covering their bedroom carpets with discarded clothes! It is not uncommon to ask whose cardigan has been left on the playing field, only to discover that there is not a name on the label.

## **GET IN TOUCH**

If you have any queries, please get in touch. We are happy to contact you to discuss your child's learning at the end of the school day.

Mr Riddington and Mrs Tilsley.

## HAWK CLASS - OUR CURRICULUM IN TERM 1

### AUTHOR

#### Class books:

*The Adventures of Odysseus* by Hugh Lupton, Daniel Morden and Christina Balit.  
*You Rule!* By Scott Forbes and Emma Laura Jones.(Non-fiction)

#### Writing

*Greek Myth (Conquering the monster)*. We will use a dialogue toolkit  
Non-fiction: *Recount, using Greek mythology as a focus.*

### MATHEMATICIAN

Place Value

Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division

Shape

### THIS TERM'S ENQUIRY IS CALLED 'HOW DO WE ALL LIVE TOGETHER?'

#### HISTORIAN

History knowledge: - Ancient Greece – a study of Greek life and achievements and their influence on the western world

#### PHILOSOPHER

What is a good life?

What are my rights & responsibilities?

What does it mean to have power?

What is philosophy?

British Values: Monarchy and the Government

#### ARTIST

Gods and Monsters

Drawing skills, understanding the meaning and value of art.

#### R.E.

What matters most to Christians and Humanists?

#### JIGSAW

Being me in my world

#### MUSIC

Charanga: Happy

#### P.E.

Yoga (Future Stars)

Netball & Swimming

#### OTHER EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Year 6 trip to the Life Skills Centre (September 19<sup>th</sup>)

Inset Day (September 25<sup>th</sup>)

Swimming lessons at Yate Pool (Tuesdays starting October 3<sup>rd</sup>  
and ending January 23<sup>rd</sup>)

Harvest Festival (October 6<sup>th</sup>)

Photographer in school (October 11<sup>th</sup>)

Road Safety workshop (October 13<sup>th</sup>)

Outdoor Learning Day (October 20<sup>th</sup>)