



Elm Class - Year 5

Newsletter

Autumn term.

Dear Parent/carers,

We are so happy to be back in school after such a long and unusual period. We know that the children will have a mixture of emotions returning, so please be assured that we will be taking time to support the children's mental wellbeing as much as their academic learning.

We are very excited about the term ahead and the variety of topics we have planned.

Maths: We focus on 'Number' for the whole Autumn term; starting with place value, then addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and concluding with statistics. We will be building on the children's fluency skills, as well as reasoning and problem solving. We will be practising our times tables twice each week and we will have weekly arithmetic activities too.

English: We will link our history topic to our writing; starting with newspaper articles about Skara Brae and then diary writing about life in a hillfort settlement. We will explore how our writing is adapted to suit various audiences and purpose and include grammar that expands our sentences and makes our writing more cohesive.

Reading: Our class book is 'Skellig' by David Almond. We will be reading this together and using this as the basis for developing our comprehension skills. We will also finish the day with teacher reading time; our first book being 'The boy at the back of the class'.

Spelling: We are excited about the structure of our specific spelling lessons which will be daily. We will be covering all the year 5 spelling rules (one rule each week) and the common exception words (3-5 words each week); using various strategies for learning to help children absorb the spelling patterns. Our lessons will be active, and child led in parts.

History: We will start the term investigating the Stone, Bronze and Iron age and then be moving onto the Romans. The children will have the opportunity to research, question and debate, all important skills. We will also be creating a whole class explanation timeline.

Science: Our topic will be 'Materials and their properties' whereby the children will have the opportunity to make predictions, test and evaluate their findings. We will make links with our history topic and investigate the properties of stone, bronze and iron.

Other: In DT the children will be making roundhouses; linking with our history & science topics. Geography will focus on region, counties and country; we will link this with historical landmarks like Stonehenge. We will mix our own paint colours in art and create a Stonehenge inspired painting; investigating tone, shade, perspective, foreground and background. Dance and tag rugby will keep us active in PE and we will continue to run the daily mile. Children will become

game developers in ICT and develop their time telling skills in French. What a busy and exciting term ahead!

Our PE days are Wednesday and Friday when your children need to come into school in their PE kit.

Homework: We are currently considering what homework will look like going forward. We will be setting spelling work to take home and encourage children to read daily for 15 minutes until we have established a clear strategy for homework.

We look forward to working and supporting your children in their learning journey. If you would like to discuss any issues with us, please do not hesitate to come and see us or email us.

Kind regards

Mrs Brogan, Mrs Aves and Mrs Waterman.