



Our ref: LC19/20
September 2021

Dear parents/carers

Hope you have all enjoyed your summer. Welcome to back to school and what is going to be a wonderful year in Outstanding Owls. I am thrilled to be in Year 5 again and cannot wait to get started with a brilliant group of children. The purpose of this letter is to hopefully give you as much information as possible in order that the year runs as smoothly as it can.

Morning routine

Now that the children are in Year 5, they enter school through the fire door to our classroom. This reduces the number of children entering through the double doors at the top of the steps and is much safer. From 8:50, the children will have tasks and activities to complete and therefore it is essential that they arrive to school on time.

Weekly timetable

I will be teaching all lessons for most of the week. The children will have RE with Mrs Evans. Mrs Thorncroft will be in class supporting as a Teaching Assistant every morning and two afternoons each week. This half term, the children will have P.E. on a **Thursday and Friday**, although this is likely to change each half term as the rota changes to make it fair to all classes. It is helpful for P.E. kits to be in school all week, just in case of any additional events. As we approach the winter season, please ensure that your child has a coat suitable for the weather conditions as we aim to go outside whatever the weather (within reason!).

Homework

Homework will be given out on a Thursday and it should be returned the following Wednesday in order that it can be marked and organized ready to be re-administered on the Thursday. The children will get a list of spellings to learn (which they will be tested on) and will be expected to practice their times table each week using the sheet provided. The children will then be able to choose from the termly homework sheet based on the topic for the term. I will expect at least one piece of work to be handed in every two weeks. There will be a sheet in their homework folder for the children them to record their spelling result so that you are able to see them every week.



Curriculum

I have attached a curriculum map for this term; our first topic is Ancient Greece and our work will be based around this theme, specifically Greek myths. It is going to be a great topic filled with a variety of activities linked to many subject areas. If you have anything at home related to this topic that you feel would be useful in school, please send them in with your child for us to look at in class.

Dates for your diary

On 18th October, I shall be holding a 'mythical creature day,' linked to our term's topic. The children are invited to come to school on this day dressed as a mythical creature they have read about, or their own creation, for example by wearing different parts of animal costumes to create a new creature. On this day, we shall complete a variety of activities all about mythical creatures linked to different subject areas.

Reading books and library books

Your child should by now have a reading book and a reading record. It is vital that your child continues to read regularly at home and that their reading is recorded in their book. Even if your child reads independently, I would appreciate it if you would discuss the story with your child, as comprehension is one of our main focuses this year. Children will have plenty of opportunities to change their reading books and also to take home a separate library book if they wish. We have a plethora of books available in the classroom in addition to the collection in the library.

Water bottles

Please send your child into school with a named water bottle which they can access throughout the day. We will send them home at the end of every day to be washed and refilled.

Pencil cases

All the stationery that the children will need is provided by school and therefore pencil cases are not necessary. However, if your child would like to bring in a pencil case they can do. I ask for this to stay in their bag or in their draw in the classroom until they are invited to get them out in order to complete an art-based activity or something a little more special.



Lost property

Many items of clothing and other possessions have been left by the children at the end of the last academic year. I shall do my best to get these sent home with the children as soon as possible.

I am really keen for you to feel able to talk me about any concerns you have. If you have any questions, please arrange a meeting with me via the school office or see me at the end of the day.

Kind regards,

Mrs Gridley
Class Teacher