

# Year 5 and 6 Autumn Term Newsletter 2022

## Welcome back to a new school year!

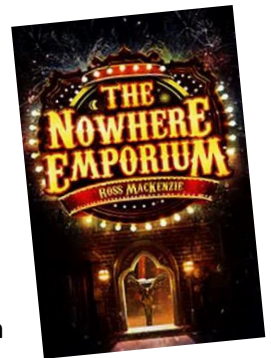
Welcome back to a new school year! I hope you all had a lovely summer and enjoyed the beautiful weather. This class has already impressed me this year with their attentiveness, enthusiasm and a willingness to learn. This newsletter will outline what we will be covering this term as well as some important information on homework and routines.

**Maths** We are continuing to use White Rose for maths. We will begin with place value and then move onto the 4 operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). We will be working hard to fill any gaps from previous years.

As always, times tables will be a big focus and we will be continually practising and assessing these using written tests, games, activities and Times Tables Rockstars. Please encourage your child to use TTRS at home as this has proven to be a great resource.

**English** Last year, we enjoyed using the Jane Considine writing scheme and found that our pupils wrote some excellent independent pieces. Using this scheme again, we will be beginning with a mystery narrative unit revolved around the book *The Nowhere Emporium*. We will also be focusing on comprehension skills.

**Reading** All of the children should have brought home a reading book this week which I have checked is an appropriate level. They are also welcome to read their own books as long as they are the correct level. Please continue to read with your child at home as reading every day is beneficial to all subjects. I have told the children that from next week I will be keeping a record of how much they are reading at home. As part of their homework, they should be reading at least 3 times a week and an adult at home should sign their reading record. Reading will earn them a house point and a point for their reading team!



**Spelling** We are trialling a new spelling scheme which some of the local schools are using. The scheme doesn't rely on weekly spelling tests but encourages regular reviews and revisiting with "proven methods to increase retention". We have found that often children learn spellings for a test but don't apply these in their writing. We will be having an increased focus on transferring learnt spellings to writing. While using this scheme, we will not be sending spellings home to learn and won't have weekly Spelling Shed homework. We are still buying into Spelling Shed which we will use in school and you are welcome to use with your child at home.

**Science** This term, the children will begin by learning about the circulatory system followed by a unit on forces.

**History** This term, the children are learning about local history with a focus on John Wilkinson and how things have changed in our local area.

**Geography** This term focuses on mountains. The children have already enjoyed getting stuck into their first lesson.

**DT** To start the term off, the children will be doing a textiles unit where they will learn and improve on sewing skills.

# Year 5 and 6 Autumn Term Newsletter 2022

**Music** The children will start with a jazz topic followed by singing practise for the Christmas play.

**French** Madame Cook will be returning this year to continue and build on the French skills from previous years.

**Computing** Year 5 and 6 are starting with a programming unit. We will also be developing general ICT skills through other subjects.

**PE** PE will be on a Monday and a Friday. This term the children will cover netball, football and dodgeball. In the second half of term, swimming will restart for year 5; you will receive a letter about this closer to the time. Year 6 went swimming as a one-off last year due to missing it through COVID. When the rest of KS2 are swimming, year 6 will stay with me which will be a vital time for some focused maths and English work as well as some fun PE lessons.

**RE** In RE, we will be thinking about two questions this term: 'What does it mean if God is holy and loving?' and 'Was Jesus the messiah?'

**Homework** Please see below for a timetable of homework. Occasionally the way I set homework may vary depending on the topic but generally it will be CGP books and Seesaw. Please let me know if you do not have access to the internet at home so I can find alternative arrangements for Seesaw homework.

**Mondays:** CGP books and Seesaw talking homework are due.

**Tuesdays:** New CGP and Seesaw homework is handed out.

**Three times a week:** As part of their homework, the children should be reading at least 3 times a week and this should be signed by an adult in their Reading Record. This begins on a Friday and ends on a Thursday.

**TTRS:** Regular engagement with TTRS would be beneficial, especially if your child doesn't have quick recall of their times tables.

**VIP** We will be continuing with VIP this year which is always a lovely time to celebrate all the things each child brings to our school. If your child is a VIP (wearing a blue jumper), you are invited to attend our VIP assembly at 9am on Friday. Please can you wash the VIP jumper and return it to school the following Monday.



**Daily celebration** In order to be more environmentally friendly, we have moved away from prizes for 'Star of the Day' and are instead going to be celebrating examples of children letting their light shine throughout the day. This might be more than one child and we will be encouraging the children to look out for examples.

If you have any questions at any point over the term, please feel free to ask.

Kind regards,

Mrs Curwen