

Years 5 & 6 Autumn Term Topic Letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to a new school year! We hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful summer break and are feeling refreshed and ready for an exciting autumn term. We are

delighted to welcome our pupils back to Oak, Sycamore and Elm classes and look forward to a term filled with engaging learning, exciting opportunities and memorable experiences.

Our Learning This Term

This half term, our main class text will be *Goodnight Mister Tom* by Michelle Magorian. Through this powerful and moving story set during the Second World War, pupils will develop their reading comprehension, vocabulary and writing skills. They will explore a range of writing genres, including narrative writing, diary entries, letters and descriptive pieces, while developing their understanding of character, setting and theme.

In History, we will be learning about World War II. Children will investigate the causes of the war, the experiences of people living during wartime, evacuation, the Blitz and how the conflict affected life in Britain. We will encourage pupils to think critically about the impact of significant historical events and how they shaped the world we live in today.

Our Geography unit focuses on Population Change. Pupils will explore how and why populations change over time, investigate migration, urbanisation and population distribution, and consider the challenges and opportunities created by changing populations both nationally and globally.

In Science, children will study Life Cycles and Reproduction. They will learn about the life cycles of different plants and animals, compare similarities and differences between species, and develop their understanding of reproduction in both plants and living things through a range of practical and investigative activities.

This term's Art focus is drawing. Pupils will develop their observational drawing skills, experiment with a variety of techniques and media, and learn how artists use line, tone, texture and shading to create effective artwork.

In DT, children will be exploring Combining Fabric Shapes. They will learn sewing and construction techniques to create textile products, developing their designing, making and evaluating skills throughout the process.

Important Reminders

Please ensure that your child comes to school with their full PE kit to be kept in school. All items should be clearly named.

Please make sure that all uniform, coats, shoes, water bottles and lunch boxes are clearly labelled with your child's name. This helps us return misplaced items quickly and reduces the amount of lost property.

Children should bring their reading book and reading record to school each day. To help protect books and keep them in good condition, all reading books should be carried in their purple book satchels. If your child's satchel has been lost or damaged, replacement satchels can be purchased from the local uniform shops in town.

We are looking forward to an exciting and successful autumn term and cannot wait to see all the wonderful progress the children will make.

Homework

Children will be set a weekly Times Table Rock Stars assignment every Friday. This should be completed before 8:30am on the following Friday. Regular practice helps children develop rapid recall of multiplication and division facts, which is essential for success across many areas of the mathematics curriculum. We appreciate your support in encouraging your child to complete their assignment each week. Alongside this, we expect children to read regularly at home and record this in their reading record to support the development of fluency, comprehension and vocabulary, please ensure reading diaries are signed each week.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Kind regards,

Mrs Atkinson, Mr Priory, Mrs Worsley and Mrs Mercer

