



Otters Class Newsletter Term 1

Hello and welcome to Year 5!

I hope you have all enjoyed a really fantastic summer and soaked up the unusually great amount of sunshine we have had! Hopefully now everyone is feeling refreshed and ready for a brand new year. We are looking forward to working with you and your children, and taking on the challenges ahead.

Hopefully I will get to meet many of you properly next week during our 'Meet the Teacher' session. I really appreciate you taking the time to attend but if you are unable to be there and would like to introduce yourself, please do come and say hello at some point.

Any support I can offer throughout the year, please don't hesitate to ask or get in touch. I'm here to help your children in every way that I can, so please feel free to come and speak to me before or after school or alternatively you can email me at daniel.warner@bad.kent.sch.uk.

We look forward to working with you all this year.

Mr Warner (and Miss Gunner)

Key Dates



Wednesday 14th September - Year 5's Meet the Teacher session

Friday 16th September - Art Enrichment Day

Monday 19th September - School Council Elections

Friday 23rd September - Fruit Run

Thursday 29th September - Bewl Water Meeting (3.30pm)

Tuesday 4th October - Individual School Photographs

Wednesday 19th - Friday 21st October - Bewl Water Residential Trip

Friday 21st October - Last day of term

Monday 31st October - Staff Development Day



Topics Overview

English - This term the class will be learning more about information texts and how these are structured before they begin writing their own. We will also begin to explore more complex punctuation including semi-colons and brackets. Both before and after our visit to Bewl Water we will be learning about persuasive texts and will be writing our own promotional material for the centre. Later in the term we will be looking at the use of imagery in poetry through poems written about the sea.

Maths - During our sessions this term we will be focusing on a variety of different aspects of 'Number'. These will include; place value, adding and subtracting numbers with more than 4 digits, multiples and factors, and multiplying and dividing 4 digit numbers by a 1 or 2-digit number. Throughout the term we will also be looking to develop reasoning and arithmetic skills.

Science - Our topic for this term is 'Properties and Changes of Materials'. During this time, the children will explore key properties of materials and objects around them and discover how these can be changed. Dissolving will be introduced during this topic, along with the exploration of thermal insulators & conductors.

R.E - Our topic for this term is Judaism. We will be focusing on ceremonies and rituals within the religion and how these compare to those of other religions.

P.E - This term the children will have PE on a **Thursday** (Wake & Shake) and **Friday** (Rugby/Basketball). Wake & shake will be taught by Mr Warner and will involve the children developing their collaboration skills whilst producing a dance routine. Rugby/Basketball will be taught by Mr Packer - these sessions will aim to develop their understanding of these sports and the skills required to improve (e.g. hand-eye coordination, spatial awareness, agility). *Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit for these sessions.*

Computing - Our topic this term is 'We are Bloggers'. During these sessions the children will learn more about blogging and identify examples of these. They will then plan and develop their own blogs based on a set topic.

Art/D.T. - This term the children will be learning about 'Seascapes'. They will consider how to sketch effectively and how to use colour and tone to have greater impact. The children will look at different artists' work and how they have used a variety of textures and media to record their ideas.

History/Geography - During our Humanities sessions this term, we will be looking at 'Coasts'. This will involve learning about erosion and how this shapes the landscapes around us. We will also discover how we try to prevent erosion with the use of sea defences.

PSHE - This term our topic is 'New Beginnings'. During these sessions the children will spend time learning and discussing how to adapt to new situations.

Music - For the majority of this year, the children will be learning how to play the ukulele. These sessions will be taken by Mrs Willmott.

French - We will be learning about French food and the vocabulary associated with this. They will continue to practise their numbers and greetings in French.

Home Learning

Spellings

Each week the children will be given spellings on a **Thursday** that need to be practised and learnt for a test the following **Tuesday**. A spelling sheet will be sent home that will support and assist with learning these spellings. This will be the main home learning task each week and will be a key focus that I expect the children to complete.

Additional Tasks

Alongside spellings, the children will be set an additional, shorter task that will be related to learning taking place within the classroom. This task could be from any area of the curriculum.

The children should also be regularly practising their times tables and any arithmetic strategies they recognise they need to develop. Arithmetic is an important aspect of maths and hugely supports learning within the classroom.

Reading

I cannot over-emphasise the importance of daily reading practice for children at home. Please encourage and support your child with this. Fifteen to twenty minutes per day is ideal.

There will be no homework club this year; however, if your child needs any support with any task set during the year, please ensure that they come to see me before the homework is due so that I can help.