# Hedgehogs' Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 5!

I hope you have all enjoyed a fantastic summer and that everyone is feeling refreshed and ready for a brand new year. Below is an introduction to the Year 5 team (although you already know two thirds of us!) and an overview of topics taught this term. Please keep an eye on the weekly newsletters for key dates and further information.

If you do have any questions, comments or concerns then please do not hesitate to come and speak to me either before school or at the end of the day.

We are all looking forward to a great year.

Miss Fuller, Miss Jarman and Mrs Jones

## Who are we?

**Miss Fuller-** This is my seventh year at Boughton and I am thrilled to be able to continue where we left off last year and working alongside each other again. Lots of things have changed since I was last teaching your children- I have moved house and am spending lots of my time learning DIY skills. It's all new to me and there haven't been too many disasters…I am still enjoying running, horse riding and generally keeping fit. I am looking forward to teaching new topics this year and seeing the same, smiley faces.

**Miss Jarman-** My name is Miss Jarman and I have been working at Boughton for a long, long time….for 15 years! I love maths and RE. I enjoy watching films and spend a lot of my spare time at the cinema. I also enjoy reading. My favourite treat is chocolate and always have a supply in my tray!

**Mrs Jones-** Hi Hedgehogs! I've been a Teaching Assistant at Boughton for 6 enjoyable years. Before coming here, I taught in a primary school in Thailand and I must admit that I still miss the sunshine! I love living by the sea and enjoy my SUP, swimming, long walks and yoga. I'm really looking forward to being part of the year 5 team.

## Topics Overview

**English** – This term is all about Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone and Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them. We will be reading the text and looking at small sections of the film to help stimulate writing. The class will be focusing on descriptive writing and persuasive language and towards the end of the term, we will be learning all about instructional and non-chronological report writing. We will also begin to explore more complex punctuation including semi-colons and brackets as well as revising grammar and punctuation from the Year 4 curriculum.

**Maths** – We will be beginning the term with learning about coordinates and translation of shapes to help us create our own Marauder's Maps linked to our English topic. During the rest of the 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 and Roman numerals to 1000.

**Science** – The science curriculum has changed for this academic year and I am really looking forward to teaching it. Instead of a single set topic for science (e.g. Space), we will be covering a range of topics throughout the term. This will ensure the children are engaged and because the topics are frequently revisited each term and year (with progression and a range of activities), this will ensure the children have a deeper understanding of concepts and scientific knowledge taught. For example, this term we will spend the first three weeks learning about adaptation, life cycles and processes. Then we will move onto magnets and light for the remainder of the term.

**R.E** – Our topic for this term will be "What does it mean to be a Methodist in Britain today?'. This will involve a range of discussions and activities and the children will be able to: retell the story of John Wesley being saved from the fire as a child; consider why Methodists and other Christians find John Wesley's life an important example today and discuss how should John Wesley inspire us.

**P.E** – This term the children will have PE on a **Tuesday** with Mr Packer (football) and **Thursday** (wake and shake). 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. They should come to school dressed in their kit.*

**Art** – Our focus will be on Egyptian art this term and the children will look at canopic jars. They will consider the uses and will have a go at designing and making their own. They will also look at portrait work by Pablo Picasso and begin to imitate his style.

**History/Geography** – This term our topic is Ancient Egypt. The children will look at a variety of aspects which include; hieroglyphics, mummification, Pharaohs and pyramids.

**PSHE** – This term we will be focusing on 'What makes up our identity?' This will involve us thinking about what makes each of us special and unique as well as what it means to be in a community group. We will be considering how to celebrate the differences of the people in the community and to challenge stereotypes.

**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, the school's guitar teacher, on a Monday afternoon. To begin with Mrs Willmott will be having only half of the class at a time to ensure they get as much tuition as possible.

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

# Home Learning

Next week we will be sending home exercise books for children to complete any home learning in if they choose. These are to remain at home. They do not need to be brought into school.

**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**. Spellings that the children learn will be based upon learning in class as well as from the Y5 and Y6 spelling expectations. They are asked to practise each word a number of times using a variety of spelling techniques they have been taught in class. This makes up a significant part of their home learning and I do expect that the children make time to practise and learn their spellings each week.

**Times Table Tasks**

Alongside spellings, the children will be set an additional, shorter task that will be related to learning their multiplication tables and corresponding division facts. These will be based on each pupil's individual need following work in school on multiplication and division facts. I have included some links to some useful websites to support the learning of multiplication and division facts that may support your children with this part of their home learning.

https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables
https://www.timestables.co.uk/
https://www.mathschase.com/
https://www.mathsisfun.com/timestable.html
https://www.multiplication.com/games/all-games

**Reading**

Regular reading should still be taking place at home. Now that the children are older this does not need to be reading aloud to an adult every day but it is expected that the children will be reading and recording this in their contact books at least four times per week. The children can read a combination of their school reading books as well as their own books from home, the class book corner or the library.

**Additional (optional) Learning**

The children could spend some time researching ancient Egypt and which relics are still in existence that can tell us about life during these times.