



# **HEDGEHOGS' NEWSLETTER TERM 1 2020-21**

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. I know the staff are very pleased to be back in the classroom and we are all looking forward to a great school year.

I will be teaching the class all day on a Monday, Tuesday and a Wednesday. In order that I am able to also carry out my deputy head duties, the class will be taught by Mrs Blunt on a Thursday and a Friday. Mrs Goode and Mrs Berry will also be supporting the class.

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. You can also email me at [jo.godfrey@bad.kent.sch.uk](mailto:jo.godfrey@bad.kent.sch.uk)

We are all looking forward to a great year.

Mrs Cottenden, Mrs Blunt, Mrs Goode and Mrs Berry



## Who are we?

**Mrs Cottenden**-I have been teaching for 20 years, fifteen of these at Boughton. I have taught in Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 during this time. I have also been the deputy head for the last 10 years. I was born in Edinburgh, Scotland and am very proud of my Scottish heritage. I especially enjoy teaching English and Science. Nothing beats hands on learning!

**Mrs Blunt**-I qualified as a teacher 28 years ago and have never lost my passion for teaching. I started teaching at Boughton five years ago, sharing a class with Mrs Cottenden. I have a real love for the teaching of art and history. I enjoy bringing the past back to life and making it relevant for the children. I enjoy keep fit.

**Mrs Berry**- I came into teaching later in life. I qualified in 2010 and have enjoyed teaching lots of different year groups. All three of my children have come through Boughton, my eldest two are now about to start university. I most enjoy teaching science, especially investigations. I have enjoyed digging deeper into the RE curriculum and exploring the big questions.

**Mrs Goode**- I have worked as a teaching assistant at Boughton for 18 years. Both of my daughters enjoyed coming to this school and have gone on to very successful careers. My specialism is dyslexia support. I most enjoy English and art lessons. I also work at late care. Reading is my favourite hobby.

## Topics Overview

Having been out of school for such a long time, we are very aware that there will have been learning that was missed. We endeavour to ensure that any gaps in knowledge or understanding are addressed and filled.

**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. With Mrs Cottenden, the class will be focusing on descriptive writing and persuasive language. Mrs Blunt will be teaching the class 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. Mrs Blunt will be working with the class to improve their understanding of 2D and 3D shape as well as work on angles.

**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 and conductors.

**R.E** - Our topic for this term will be 'If God is everywhere, why go to a church?' which will include thinking about living as a Methodist. We hope that Reverend Tim will visit the class during this unit to talk about his experiences.

**P.E** - This term the children will have PE on a **Tuesday** (football) and **Friday** (circuits & fitness). Both sessions 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 as we will be unable to lend kit to pupils. 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 death masks and canopic jars. They will consider the uses of each 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. A recommended book list will provided in the home learning exercise books. These are tried and tested books from a variety of genres that I know the children will enjoy. All of these are available to borrow from our class book corner.