



Marston Thorold's Primary School Newsletter

Yearly Newsletter

Otter Class Year 5/6

Welcome back to a brand new school year! I hope you had a wonderful summer break and are feeling rested, refreshed, and ready for the exciting year ahead. It has been lovely to see the children return with such enthusiasm, smiles, and positive energy. We have an action-packed and fun-filled curriculum planned for this year in Year 5/6. From thrilling new topics in English to hands-on science investigations, creative art projects, and thought-provoking history and geography units — there is so much to look forward to! Miss. Atkinson will be teaching Otters on a Monday and Mrs McKee will be supporting on a Wednesday.



What's happening in Autumn Term?

During the Autumn term the children's English lessons will be based around Abi Elphinstone's - 'The Dream Snatcher', Lindsay Littleton's - The Titanic Detective Agency and Edgar Allan Poe's poem - 'The Raven'. In design and technology we will be designing and assembling automata toys before refining our drawing skills in art. Meanwhile our geography focuses on map reading and natural resources and in history we will be learning about Vikings and Anglo-Saxons. In science we'll be exploring electricity and Why it is important to wash our hands. This term the Year 6 will be swimming for part of their P.E. whilst Year 5 cover fitness and Yoga with both year groups doing tag rugby and football.



What's happening in Spring Term?

In the Spring Term our history moves to Ancient Greece where we'll learn about the different factions as well as recognising how their inventions still impact on us to today. Our geography work looks at the country of Brazil from its busy cities to its exotic rainforest. Meanwhile in English our learning revolves around 'The Explorer' by the award winning Katherine Rundell and Maz Evans' 'Who Let The Gods Out?'. Our science topics see us blasting into to space and learning about light whilst our design and technology will see us making stuffed toys by using a range of stitches. In music we will be performing on the African drums as well as composing our own pieces to represent the Hindu festival of Holi.



What's happening in Summer Term?

Moving into the Summer Term and we begin our brand new history topic on the Industrial Revolution. As part of our learning about the United Kingdom's Coastline we will examine some of the ways in which we are trying to slow down the issue of erosion. Dick Dastardly and Mutley together with the rest of the Wacky Racers will inspire our writing in English along with Helen Cresswell's locally set 'Moondial'. In P.E. we'll be covering rounders, cricket, athletics and pupil's choice whilst our art sees us developing of knowledge of sculpture. Lifecycles and forces are the basis for our learning in science and of course we will be busily rehearsing for our end of year production too as part of our music.



PE

P.E. will be on a **Monday** and a **Wednesday**. It is essential that your child has their correct P.E. kit in for these days. When the weather is colder it is recommended that the children bring tracksuit bottoms as well as their shorts. During the Autumn Term the year 6 children will be swimming on a Wednesday as part of their P.E



Reading

Reading is at the heart of everything we do. It helps to build imagination, expand vocabulary, and deepen understanding across all subjects. We encourage children to read widely and often—both in school and at home—as strong reading habits are key to future success. Whether it's a thrilling adventure story or an informative non-fiction book, every page read makes a difference. .

Rewards

Throughout the year your child can gain Values Points for displaying any of our 6 School Values (Aspiration, Compassion, Creativity, Perseverance, Respect and Thankfulness). This might be in their written work or how they conduct themselves within our school community.

Rewards will be given to the top two readers each week in terms of the most words read and most quizzes passed based on the books that they have completed. Any child who has not completed a quiz successfully over a four week period will be invited to Monday book club until they have done so.

Class Credits will also be awarded when the whole class shown their best with their learning or in how they have conducted themselves.

Homework

Homework grids will be given out at the start of each term and will offer a wide range of activities to support your child's learning at home. The children should complete at one piece of homework each fortnight. Values points will be awarded to children who complete their tasks to a high standard. For some tasks photographs can be used for evidence of the completed work. We will look to display pieces throughout the year as well as include them on our class pages on the website. Please encourage your child to complete a breadth of tasks in order to support all areas of their learning.

Spelling

Spelling is taught everyday in Otters Class and the children will revise words that they are misspelling as well as those taught at year 5 and 6. The children will be given spellings to practise at home on a Tuesday and they will be tested on these on the following Monday.



Website

Link to class page

Our website contains a wealth of information that you may find helpful.

On your child's class page, you can find:

- Homework grids
- Knowledge organisers
- Photo updates
- Spellings

On our main website, you can find information about our:

- Policies and reports
- Term dates
- Newsletters
- School information
- School meals
- SEND

Click to follow us on Facebook!

