6th November 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Class Curriculum Newsletter – Year 5 – Autumn 2

Welcome to Term 2! We hope you have had a restful break and are ready for another exciting term of learning. This newsletter outlines the key areas that we'll be exploring over the coming weeks, including new topics and texts, as well as reminders about key days for PE and homework. This term is expected to be busy and rewarding with plenty of opportunities for curiosity, creativity and growth. We welcome and appreciate your support in helping your child meet Year 5 expectations.

An overview of our curriculum this term:

- In English, we will be writing balanced arguments, looking at stories set in a different culture and looking at word play in poems.
- In Guided Reading, we will be reading 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell.
- In Maths, we will be continuing with our Multiplication and Division unit, where we're identifying factors, multiples, square numbers, cube numbers and prime numbers, and multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. After this, we'll be moving onto our Fractions unit. This is where we'll be finding equivalent fractions, converting fractions between mixed number and improper fractions, ordering and comparing fractions, and adding and subtracting fractions.
- In Science, we are investigating the properties of everyday materials and reversible and irreversible changes to them.
- Our Geography topic this term is all about the Oceans. We are going to be finding out the importance of our oceans; locating and describing the Great Barrier Reef; diving deeper into why our oceans are suffering and the impact that humans are having on them; and understanding ways in which we can keep our oceans healthy.
- In DT this term, we'll be sewing Christmas felt stockings.
- Our PE lessons this term are Fitness and Rugby. Elm PE days are Wednesday and Thursday.
- In Computing, we're going to be looking at spreadsheets.
- In French, we're looking at classroom items, such as what would be in a pencil case or a school bag.
- Our RE lessons will be looking at why Muhammad is important to Muslims.
- In PSHE, we're Celebrating Differences. Throughout the topic, we'll be looking at cultural differences and how these differences sometimes cause conflict; how rumour-spreading and name-calling can be bullying behaviours; and understanding cultures and lives that are different from our own.
- Our Music lessons this term are focusing on learning the songs for our Christmas concert.

Homework Expectations:

- Spellings and English– sent home on Tuesday, due to be completed by the following Monday
    - Children are expected to learn the spelling rule ready for a test the following Monday. A spelling task will be sent home in their Homework book together with a written activity to complete. Spellings can also be practiced online on EdShed. Please ensure Homework books are sent into school every Monday. Completed homework earns house points and possibly a raffle ticket!
- Reading – reading records will be checked every Monday.
    - Children are expected to read for 15-20 minutes at least 3 times a week. These reads must be recorded in their reading records by an adult, and Reading Records brought into school daily. Children can earn house points for every read and a certificate for every 25 reads!
- Times Tables
    - Children should continue to practice their times tables regularly using Times Table Rock Stars.

All Year 5 pupils have been given login details for EdShed and TTRS which should be in their reading records.

Days to remember:

- Library day is Monday.
- Reading Records are checked in school on a Monday.
- PE days are Wednesday and Thursday.
- Homework is due to be completed and handed in on Monday.
- Spelling tests are on Monday.

Please remember we begin our English and Guided Reading lessons promptly at 9 a.m. each day and you co-operation in getting your children to school punctually every day ensures they have a smooth start to their morning and do not miss key learning opportunities. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

Finally, if you have anything you wish to discuss or any questions or messages that cannot be passed on at the classroom door, please email the school office admin@westleaschool.org.uk, who will forward the message to us.

We're excited for a fun term ahead!

Many thanks,

Rachel Howard and the Year 5 team.