



## Elm Class (Year 5/6) Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term 2 2024

Welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful half-term break making memories to cherish. It was lovely to see the children back in school so happy and full of enthusiasm for the next half term. Our newsletter outlines our learning for this term. If you would like any further information, please ask.

### Useful Reminders

Our P.E day is Friday and full P.E kit must be worn. Please ensure that P.E kit is as listed on the school newsletter and website.

Any changes will be announced on Dojo.

### Core Subjects

**English** – This term children will be using our class read 'Kick' as a starting point to create a persuasive letter. Pupils will write a persuasive letter to their head teacher or a local football league/club, persuading them to buy Fairtrade (Bala Sport) balls next time they purchase them. In spelling we will continue to use Spelling Shed to practise different spelling patterns. Please see our word lists below. In reading we will be exploring a range of stories such as: Impossible Creatures, The Legend of Podkin One-Ear and Maria Merian. We will be looking at chapters from different stories to read and discuss books that are structured in different ways.

**Maths** – In Maths, we will continue to consolidate pupil understanding of fractions and will be developing their knowledge further by looking into dividing and multiplying fractions. Another area of Maths that the children will be developing is decimals (ordering, comparing and rounding decimals. Children will continue to practise their KIRFS daily. This term our KIRF focus is to identify prime numbers and to recall square numbers, so please look at our homework chart to support their recall facts at home.

**Science** – Forces and Space: Unbalanced Forces - Building on their knowledge of contact and non-contact forces, children explore gravity, friction, air resistance and water resistance in more depth and consider the effect of these forces being unbalanced. They will plan investigations to further their understanding of the effects of these forces. Pupils test their ideas using models and compete to build the most effective pulley system.

### Foundation Subjects

**R.E** - Why does religion look different around the world? We will be building comparisons about the origins of the Abrahamic religions. The children will consider how culture, tradition, migration and interpretation can affect how some religious practices are observed.

**P.E** - In P.E we will be developing our balance, flexibility, coordination and strength through our gymnastic unit. Our second unit will be based on netball skills, developing our balance, coordination, speed and stamina.

**PSHE** – Citizenship. Recognising the role that pressure groups play in society; learning about the value of a diverse community; considering how our food choices affect the environment; understanding how to show care and concern to others; considering how rights and responsibilities are linked; learning about how parliament works.

**Geography** – Would you like to live in the desert? Exploring hot desert biomes and learning about the physical features of a desert and how humans interact with this environment.

**Computing** – Flat-file databases - Using a database to order data and create charts to answer questions.

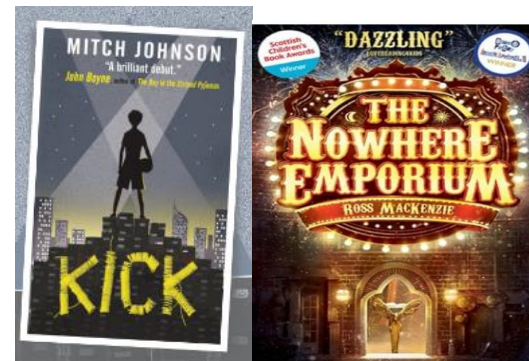
**DT** – Electrical systems: Steady hand game - Understand what is meant by fit for purpose design and form follows function. Design and develop a steady hand game using a series circuit, including housing and backboard.

**French** – In my French house - Learning about surroundings and discovering the fascinating world of different homes; exploring different types of houses and building vocabulary and pronunciation skills; describing homes and neighbourhoods in French.

### Homework

- Reading Plus – x 2 each week at home.
- Reading/Questioning - x 3 per week with an adult. Don't forget to record this in the reading record book!
- Spellings (10 Words)
- Times Tables (TT Rockstars), including KIRFS,
- Foundation Subjects – one extended piece of homework per half term from a menu of open-ended tasks.

Our class readers are 'The Nowhere Emporium' by Ross Mackenzie & 'Kick' by Mitch Johnson.



'The Nowhere Emporium' was described by a previous pupil as 'dazzling' and 'mesmerizing'! We are very excited to continue to share this with you!

### Spellings and Vocabulary

As children learn to spell these words, please discuss their meanings at home and try to use them in context to help develop children's vocabulary and their memory of the spelling.

Week 8 – apparent, committee, curiosity, guarantee, lightning, parliament, recommend, soldier, vegetable, especially

Week 9 – appreciate, communicate, definite, exaggerate, harass, persuade, relevant, stomach, vehicle, marvellous

Week 10 – attached, community, desperate, excellent, hindrance, mischievous, physical, restaurant, sufficient, yacht

Week 11 - rhythm, system, symbol, mystery, lyrics, oxygen, symptom, antonym, typical, crystal

Week 12 - rhyme, python, occupy, supply, apply, identify, hyphen, multiply, hygiene, recycle

Week 13 - overbalance, overcook, overthrow, overpaid, overturned, overreact, overcoat, overtired, overslept, overlooked

**Other Curriculum Spellings:** aerodynamics, air resistance, amplify, balanced, contact force, distance, effort, force, friction, gear, gravity, lever, load, machine, mass, matter, non-contact force, pivot, pulley, streamlining, surface area, unbalanced, water resistance, Agriculture, airstrip, arid, barren, biome, climate, desert, desertification, drought, flash flood, park, natural, arch, nature reserve, rainfall, ranching, renewable, energy, salt flat, dune, sparse, vegetation, weather.