

Dear Year 5 Children and Parents,

First let me start with a welcome. We are delighted to welcome you back and are looking forward to an action-packed year. We hope you've had a wonderful summer and are fully refreshed for a fun filled year ahead.



This year our team consists of the wonderful Miss Smith (our class TA) who you already know very well from your time in Year 4, the lovely Mrs Harding who will be covering Y5 on a Thursday afternoon and me, Miss Howard. As a new member of staff at the school, I am very much looking forward to getting to know you all over the next few weeks as we settle into the new school year. Please be assured that throughout the year we will be working together very closely as a team to ensure consistency and the absolute best for each and every child in our care.

As you will already be aware, the timings for the school day will continue to be the same as last year. This means that your child will need to arrive at school between 8:40am and 8:55am and enter through the blue door by the chapel. They will then need to walk through the corridors past Y6 (not through the hall) and up to the Y5 classroom.

The school day will then be ending at 3:15pm and the children will be walked around to the large, blue field gate by the field. Those who have permission to walk home will be dismissed and all others will be handed to the relevant adult that is collecting.

Please can I also remind you that children must have their PE kits in school all week. In Year 5, we have PE on Monday and Wednesdays. PE kits must be in named bags and kept on children's pegs.

To kick-start the year, Year 5 will be exploring the topic 'Crime & Punishment' as part of our History lessons where we will be looking at the development of the justice system from the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings to the present day. As part of this topic, we have a very exciting visitor booked in to discuss what life is like as a police officer in the modern day and answer any questions children may have. Alongside our History topic, we will be reading Malorie Blackman's 'Pig Heart Boy' which tells the story of a child undergoing pioneering and innovative treatment involving a pig to human heart transplant operation.

### Homework

To link with our curriculum topics, you will find our homework grid on the school website and Google Classrooms. These grids outline a selection of different tasks to be completed by the end of this term. The grid consists of 4 different activities. Each activity has a given number of points and over the term the children will need to complete a minimum of 35 points (of course they can exceed this number if they wish). It is important to make sure that at least one activity from each group is completed (A-D).

This homework can be either submitted on Google Classrooms or if you have created something spectacular that you would like to display, please do bring it into school. Please do feel free to ask if you are unsure or need any support with the activities. Have fun!

### **Spellings**

Every week the children will have 5 spellings to learn from the statutory curriculum spelling list. These lists are given out for Y3/4 and Y5/6 at the beginning of the term and the children also have them stuck in the front cover of their Literacy books. Each week the children will have 5 to learn and on completion of these words will be given the next 5. The remainder of the spelling test will be on rules taught that week during spelling lessons. For example, if the rule learnt is how to turn singular nouns into plural nouns, the children will know the rules (change 'y' to an 'i' and add es, if it ends in th/sh/ch/x then add es etc) from their lessons and will be asked to practise this rule at home. During their spelling test the remaining 5 words might then be churches, foxes, babies, mountains and tables. The test will take place on a Friday morning and the children's new spelling will be sent home on the Friday.

### **Times Tables**

To support with speedy recall of times tables, we also ask that children spend no longer than 10 minutes completing their allocated challenges on Times Tables Rocks Stars (TTRS) at home. Throughout the school year, we will also be setting some in class and whole school TTRS tournaments and will let the children know when these are up and running.



### **Maths & English**

Each week, there will be IXL Maths and English homework set on a Friday and due in the following Wednesday. This will either be based on what we have been covering in class or revising an area we should already know. The Maths homework is compulsory and must be completed however the English is optional - you may wish to keep your eye on what the English tasks are and complete the areas that you need additional practise on.



### **Reading**

At St Augustine's, we believe that reading is an essential skill for all children and we hope that they enjoy reading for pleasure. Therefore, this year in KS2, we are introducing reading journals. The aim is to encourage children of all ages to not only read regularly, but also to develop their love of reading by creating their own personal responses to a text. Children's journal entries will be counted in school and they will

have the chance to share their entries with their classes and the rest of the school. Your child will bring home their reading journal with some suggested activities stuck in the front but they can also create their own activities. A journal entry does not have to be completed every day but may be

completed after reading an introduction, a chapter, a whole book or as and when it feels appropriate. When your child achieves a certain number of entries, they will receive different rewards such as a bookmark, a certificate home and the chance to choose a class book.

Ideally, we would like at least one entry per book read but your child may choose to do more than this if they are really enjoying a text!

1 page = 1 entry

Please use the yellow reading records to record when your child has read at home as these will still be used in school and the reading journal as a resource for your child to independently interact with and respond to what they are reading. Please ensure both the reading record and the reading journal are in school every day.

### **Meet the Teacher**

We will be holding a 'Meet the Teacher' evening on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 3.25pm for you to come into the classroom and discuss the new routines and expectations of the new year group. On this day, please collect your child from the Chapel door and we will welcome parents/guardians in through the main office door, where you will be asked to sign in.

I am very much looking forward to the year ahead and thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Howard