

Snowy Owls Autumn Term Update

Teacher: **Miss C. Middlebrook**



I hope that you have enjoyed the Summer holiday and are ready to start the new year in Snowy Owls! English and Mathematics this year will be taught in single year groups in the mornings, then children will re-join their normal classes for the afternoon. Mrs Collins will teach Year 4 and Miss Middlebrook will teach Year 5.

Class Topic – Anglo-Saxons & Whole School Theme – ‘One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind’

We will be learning about who the Anglo-Saxons were, where they came from, their lifestyle, culture and beliefs, and their influence on the English language. In Art, we will be doing observational sketches and tonal drawings of Anglo-Saxon artefacts using pencil and charcoal. In DT, we will be designing and making a model Anglo-Saxon village, as well as learning weaving and how this was used to make Saxon clothing. Please can you save/bring in for these projects: balls of wool, cardboard boxes/shoe boxes, newspaper, and any other suitable recyclable materials for making the model villages. Our Snowy Owls afternoon class novels will include ‘Beowulf’ by Michael Morpurgo and ‘Anglo-Saxon Boy’. Year 5 Guided Reading will also be ‘The Golden Amulet’ by Alex Woolf, an Anglo-Saxon adventure story.

Our Science Topic for this term will be Earth and Space, linked to the whole school theme for the term ‘One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind’. As part of our DT work, we will be designing and making an astronaut scarecrow! In this topic, Snowy Owls will explain how we know the sun, earth and moon are spherical, name and describe the planets in the solar system and their order, be able to explain how the planets move and how night and day occur in different parts of the earth, as well as the movement of the moon. This will also be linked to Art and DT, as we will use different mediums such as paint and pastels to draw the planets and make our own model solar system using paper mache! Any volunteers to help with the Art and DT projects during the afternoon would be greatly appreciated!

Accelerated Reader

Children are completing the Star Reading assessment to update which colour band of reading books they can borrow from the library to take AR quizzes on. At this particular age, the children should be reading regularly and widely, as this will not only aid their comprehension skills, but also their writing, grammar and spelling. There are many of my own books in the new classroom reading corner which they are very welcome to read, as long as they are taken care of and this area is also a reward when pupils have worked hard and tried their best. Children’s Reading Records will be issued and checked on a weekly basis to encourage daily reading further. I would appreciate it if you could listen to your child at least twice a week and sign their reading record with a comment to ensure that they are reading regularly and widely.

Below is a list of some ways in which you could support your child in their reading.

- ✓ Give your child access to plenty of texts on many different topics and by a wide range of authors who write in different styles, e.g. Roald Dahl, Michael Morpurgo to Anthony Horowitz.
- ✓ Encourage discussion with your child when pronouncing new words if their reasonable attempt does not sound correct.
- ✓ Broaden the vocabulary you use when speaking to your child and be prepared to clarify the meaning of a wider range of words, modelling them within sentences.
- ✓ Encourage your child to read silently to themselves but check their understanding of what they have read after doing so.
- ✓ Read difficult texts to your child and allow them the chance to listen and ask questions.

Year 5

Maths

Daily Arithmetic and Weekly Times Tables Challenge

Place Value in numbers to 10,000, 100,000 and 1 million

Addition and Subtraction of numbers with more than 4 digits using the formal column method and application to multi-step problems

Statistics: read, interpret and draw line graphs, tables and timetables

Multiplication and Division: multiples, factors, prime numbers, square & cube numbers, multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 & 1000.

Perimeter and Area: measure & calculate perimeter, area of rectangles, compound shapes and irregular shapes.

English

Fiction: Writing to entertain

Quest adventure story writing

Diary writing

Sci-fi story writing

Non Fiction: Writing to inform

Newspaper articles

Non-chronological reports

Guided Reading: *The Golden Amulet* (Alex Woolf)

Grammar:

Embellishing simple sentences for detailed setting and character description.

Securing use of **compound sentences**

Starting a **complex sentence** with a **subordinate clause** or an expanded '-ing' clause

Punctuation:

Consolidating correct use of **full stops and capital letters**

Using **commas** to separate subordinate clauses or fronted adverbials from the rest of a sentence

Using **inverted commas** and the conventions of speech correctly to punctuate dialogue

Spellings:

Year 5/6 spellings

Words with the letter string 'ough'

Words with silent letters

Words ending in -able and -ible

Homophones

Year 4

Maths

Place Value

Addition and Subtraction

Length and Perimeter

Multiplication and Division (6, 7 and 9 times tables)

English

Fiction: Writing to entertain:

Portal story writing

Diary entry

Non Fiction: Writing to inform:

Explanation writing (Review writing)

Instructions

Guided reading: *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe* (C.S .Lewis)

Poetry:

Haiku poems

Narrative poems

Grammar:

Fronted adverbials: *Later that day, I heard the good news.*

Uplevelling sentences to have a greater impact on the reader, e.g. looking for synonyms.

Prepositional phrases: *He hid beneath the duvet.*

Use of pronoun or noun to avoid repetition.

Punctuation:

Using inverted commas where the speech is preceded by the speaker: *Mary yelled, "Sit down!"*

Comma after fronted adverbial: *Later that day, I heard the good news.*

Spellings:

Year 3/4 spellings

Possessive apostrophe with singular proper nouns

Further homophones

Words ending /ʒə/ (-sure)

Prefixes 'in-', 'il-', 'im-' and 'ir-'

Suffixes ('-ing', '-er', '-en', '-ed')

Routines/responsibilities

- Year 5 pupils have been issued with a **learning pack** of pencil, pen, whiteboard etc and aids for English and Maths with their names on at the start of the year. Please can I emphasise that children must take care of these aids and keep their drawers tidy to prevent constant replacement of equipment, which is costly and wastes lesson time. Failure to take care of these items may result in the children not having equipment replaced and phone calls home.
- Please can children ensure that all Library/Accelerated Reader books are carefully returned to school when completed.
- Children should take responsibility for leaving their **desks, drawers, cloakroom and pump boxes** as tidy as possible at all times!
- Please can you ensure that children have a **suitable pair of black pumps** to wear as indoor shoes and that **water bottles** are filled with water only.
- Please can you ensure that children are wearing the **correct uniform** of white/red top and grey trousers, as well as **the correct PE kit** of red top and black shorts or jogging bottoms and trainers. **PE kit** should be brought into school on a Monday and left in school all week.

Every afternoon 1-1.15pm (apart from Tues): Time for silent reading and AR quizzes

Tuesday: PE coaching 1.15-1.45pm

Wednesday: Wider Opportunities Music (Snowy Owls) 1-2pm

Thursday: Indoor PE 1.15-2

Times Tables Rockstars and Times Tables practise

We have been using 'Times Table Rockstars' for 2 terms and are impressed with the impact it has had on the children's knowledge and speed. There is a super speedy group of children who can answer questions in under two seconds!! Please encourage your child to use their log in and have to go at this every week, so they too can become one of our 'speediest stars' and continue to consolidate and enjoy learning their multiplication tables. This term we will be introducing 'Sumdog', an engaging online Maths learning site, where your child can take part in solving puzzles, playing games etc whilst developing their mathematical skills. Children in Year 4 and 5 will also continue to have a Times Tables book that they will be given to practise a specific times table in each week. This will then be tested/checked the next week in our weekly Times Tables Challenge. The Year 4s should return their book to Mrs Collins every Thursday and the Year 5s should return their book to Miss Middlebrook every Friday.

Homework

Please can children practise reading on a daily basis and times tables/division facts that they are given in their Times Tables books for a Thursday (Y4) or Friday (Y5) each week. A list of the spellings that will be focused on that week will also be sent home in a weekly note in the child's Homework Journal to practise at home. Other homework suggestions attached to this letter are optional, but they will complement and further enhance the learning that is taking place in class. Homework will be shown during the penultimate week of each half term and we would like children to complete at least 2 items from the optional list to have plenty to show.

We look forward to working with you throughout the next year!

Please do not hesitate to speak to us if you require any further information.

Miss C. Middlebrook

Mrs Collins

Y5/Snowy Owls Teacher

Y4 Teacher

