

# Class 8 Curriculum Letter

## Autumn Term 2

Welcome back everybody! I hope you managed to have a peaceful and restful half term break. I must start by saying how proud I am of the children for how they ended last half term and how they have begun this one. They are all absolute superstars and I cannot ask for anything more. They have really done themselves proud. They have already produced some excellent work across the curriculum and I can't wait to see what they produce in the half term to come. I was really impressed by all the homework that was brought in at the end of the last half term and the homework that was posted onto Seesaw. It was clear to see how much effort had gone into producing work of such creativity and of such a high standard. Keep up the good work!



This curriculum letter will inform you of what we will be covering in class during the second half of the Autumn term. Our topic this half term is 'Who do you think you are?' stemming from our learning of the Anglo-Saxons and Scots in History. Much of our work across the curriculum will relate to this.

If you have any queries, concerns, or simply a question, please don't hesitate to call or email me or any member of the senior leadership team. We will be more than happy to help! You can send an email to [l.hall@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:l.hall@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk).

Please find below information about the various aspects of Class 8...

### Homework



Homework will continue to be sent out half termly - each half term you will receive a home learning menu. As explained on the menu, you must complete the Maths and English activities as well as one RE activity. The rest is up to you. The homework menu will allow you to be creative and imaginative in what you decide to produce. The hand in date for the activities this half term will be Friday 9th December. Many parents ask if they can help with activities and projects such as this and the answer is most definitely a resounding 'yes!' There is nothing more motivating for a child than an interested adult. The Homework menu has been sent home tonight with this letter.

### Spellings and times tables



Spellings and times tables will be given out on a Friday and will be tested the following Friday. The spellings they are given will link to the teaching that we are doing in class. Please also remember to log in to Spelling Shed at home using the login details in your blue password booklet. This is a fantastic resource to practise spellings and spelling patterns that we have been looking at in class.

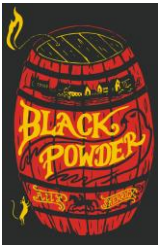
### Reading

Every child has been given a school reading book, which continues the whole school system for colour bands. As a junior, your child has the responsibility to change their own book when finished or when they are ready for a change. Please encourage your children to write the books they have read into their reading record, so that they can be proud of their reading achievements and even achieve one of the reading challenge certificates! Children should continue to read aloud to an adult as much as possible. They should focus on reading for meaning - predicting what will happen in the story and why, and also thinking about the characters feelings. As your child progresses through school, it is still a vital part of their learning that you hear them read aloud daily. Naturally, the focus changes and you are no longer working on building up fluency and expression but looking at prediction, deduction and inference. Questions such as 'What do you think . . . will do next?' 'What could happen here?' 'Why is . . . behaving like that?' will help children to develop their higher order reading skills. Please could you continue to sign and comment in the reading journal - it really helps!

This term we are introducing independent reading time twice a week to encourage a love of reading and to share our books with one another. Please make sure your child has their reading book and journal in school every day so they can read and share with everyone.

## Please find below our focus for English and Maths this Half Term

### English



In English we will continue reading a range of non-chronological reports, identifying and analysing the features of this text type before writing our own on a living thing and their habitat and then on the Anglo-Saxons. We will then be working towards writing our own historical story, using 'Black Powder' by Ally Sherrick as inspiration for our own writing. Whilst reading, we will be using lots of active reading strategies to make comparisons within the text, infer characters' feelings and thoughts and predict what might happen. Throughout our reading of the story, we will also be finding and writing our own complex sentences that use adverb openers as well as re-visiting how to use speech in our stories.

Later on in the half term we will move onto a non-fiction unit, which this half term will be biographies. We will explore the lives of inspirational and influential people from the past in our reading and writing resulting in the children producing their own biography using the features identified in our reading.

### Maths

This half term we will continue to work through the Year 4 Maths curriculum, focusing on practical activities and deeper understanding of mathematical concepts. During this half term the children will explore multiplication and division facts. They will start by working on multiplying by 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12 and related division, before moving onto multiplying and dividing by 2 and 3 digit numbers, and word problems. You can help by supporting your child to learn their times tables **fluently up to 12x12**. This is integral to procedural methods throughout the curriculum. Don't forget to log onto 'MyMaths' to see your weekly homework which will support what we are doing in class and to log into Times Table Rock Stars (aim for an average of 20 minutes a week - just a few minutes each day!).



### The Half Term Ahead

Thursday - Remember your ukulele


Tuesday - PE day

Friday - Spellings and Times Tables tested and new spellings handed out.

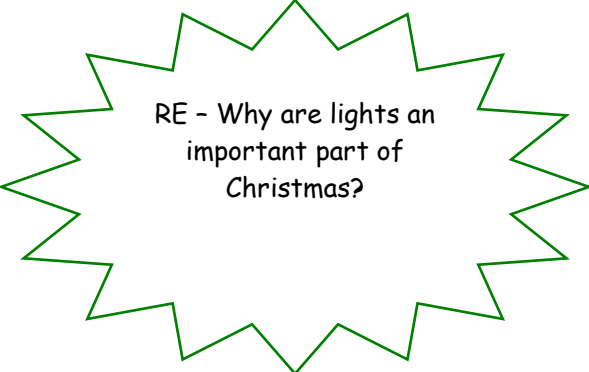
## Foundation topics




Science-  
Which  
amphibians  
choose to live  
in the UK?



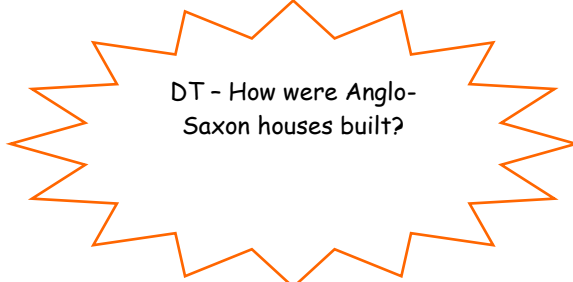
Music - How  
can I look  
after my vocal  
chords?




RE - Why are lights an  
important part of  
Christmas?




History - What  
did the Anglo-  
Saxons want  
with England?



DT - How were Anglo-  
Saxon houses built?



French - Quelle  
heure et-il?  
(activities and  
telling the  
time)



Computing - How  
can I stay safe  
online?

Ukulele will begin this term and will be taught on a Thursday afternoon. Children do need to bring their instruments and music folder in each week as they are often given sheets of music to take home to practice during the week.

Please also keep an eye out for important dates in the run up to Christmas such as the Christmas production, Christmas party day and school Christmas dinner day.

Thank you once again for your continued support. The relationship between school, parent and child is crucial and by continuing to work together, we can ensure that every child in class 8, and indeed the whole school, will have an exciting, enjoyable and memorable half term. I look forward to seeing you all in person on parents evening.

Miss Laura Hall (Class 8 Teacher)

Mrs Naomi Harrison (Assistant Head teacher)