



# Class 5 Curricular Letter

Autumn 2

Dear Parents,

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 great 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 "Was the Wicked Stepmother really wicked?" We will be reading and writing fairy tales with a twist and enjoying our very own 'Fairy Tale Day' in class to complete our unit! This will take place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November and all children are invited to come to school dressed as a traditional fairy tale character! In Art we will be exploring the life and work of Wassily Kandinsky and the children will work towards creating their own water colour art in his style. In our History lessons, we will learn about Remembrance Day and the meaning of poppies. Mrs Fothergill will also continue to teach Handwriting and RE, in which Class 5 will explore why people in the nativity all travel to Bethlehem. And of course, there is the fabulous Year 2 Christmas production to look forward to! The performance will take place in the school hall at 2pm on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December. We will be very busy rehearsing throughout the half term.

## The Half Term Ahead

### PSHE

What makes us who we are?

### Art

What makes an artist?

### English

Will St. George's want to visit Fairy Tale Land?

### English

How could I write a Fairy Tale that Class 3 had never heard before?

### History

Where did the soldiers come from?

### PE

Why do I need to learn to throw and catch?

### RE

Why do people in the nativity story travel to Bethlehem?

### Computing

How can the internet help us communicate?

## Days to Remember

Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Change reading and phonics books</li></ul>
Tuesday	
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mrs Fothergill teaches RE and handwriting in the afternoon.</li></ul>
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PE Day</li></ul>
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spelling Quiz from previous week's spelling list.</li><li>• New spellings given out</li><li>• Change reading and phonics books</li></ul>

- Please continue to send your child to school in their PE kit every Thursday. This should be a plain red top or St George's PE top and plain black shorts or joggers with pumps/trainers.
- Please also send a water bottle to school with your child every day.

## Dates for your diary

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November** - Class 5 will walk to the cenotaph at Astley Park to lay our Remembrance wreaths and to support our class history topic "Where did the soldiers come from?"

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November** - Fairy tale Day! This will take place in class and around the school grounds. Children are invited to dress up as a traditional fairy tale character.

**Wednesday/Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> November** - Parents Evening in school. Please book your appointments via SCOPAY.

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December** - Year 2 Christmas Nativity to take place in the school hall 2-3pm.

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December** - Homework to be handed in.

## **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 Monday 18th December. Many parents ask if they can help with activities and projects such as this and the answer is most definitely 'yes'! There is nothing more motivating for a child than an interested adult. The Homework menu has been sent home tonight with this letter.

## **Literacy**

Our first literacy unit is Fairy Tales with a Twist. During this topic we will read, enjoy and analyse a wide range of traditional fairy tales and fairy tales with a twist. We will answer questions, give opinions about the stories, discuss the characters thoughts and feelings and make predictions. Class 5 will then use subordination for time and explore adding suffixes to words to create adjectives. We will continue to practise using full stops and capital letters and extend our sentences using and, but, so, or, because. Later in the term, we will read and write persuasive posters. You can help by:

- ❖ Reading and discussing fairy tales together and talk about what the characters are thinking and feeling.
- ❖ Ask your child you make predictions about a text based on what they have read so far, "What will happen next?" "How will that make each character feel?" "What would you like to happen?"

## Reading

In daily guided reading and in our phonics sessions, Year 2 will continue to develop their reading skills. This will include word reading and understanding the text. We will change reading books on a Monday and a Friday, but please make sure your child's book bag is in school **every day**. Your child will also have access to more reading books on Bug Club. You can help by:

- ❖ Reading and discussing books on a regular basis to consolidate your child's development. As little as 10 minutes a night makes a huge difference!
- ❖ Access books online on Bug Club: full of wonderful books at your child's reading level.

We will be looking also to develop our vocabulary. You can help by:

- ❖ Reading and discussing the use of vocabulary in a story. You could challenge your child to find a word or words which means the same as another. For example, a story mentions a 'little old lady' and the line 'titchy and teeny house.' Ask your child 'can you find me two words which mean small?'

This half term, I will be placing a massive focus on reading. It really is the most important thing we teach at St. Georges. I will be looking to award reading certificates for those children who demonstrate that they are reading daily as well as rainbow rewards for those children who are accessing Bug Club regularly at home.

## Spelling

We will follow the Spelling Shed programme for our spellings in Year 2. Spellings will be given out on a Friday and tested the following Friday. You can help by:

- ❖ Encouraging your child to practise their spellings on the Spelling Shed app at least 3 times a week.

## Maths

Class 5 will continue to develop their mathematical skills and knowledge through whole class teaching, group activities, independent tasks and homework. During the first couple of weeks of this half term Class 5 will continue to focus on subtracting numbers to 100, choosing the most appropriate method for the numbers. We will then learn how to multiply using practical resources. To support your child with this, you could practise putting objects such as toys, pencils or sweets into equal numbered groups and asking your child to count how many objects there are in total. Using what we have learned about counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, Class 5 will begin to learn times tables.

You can help by:

- ❖ Encouraging your child to practise and develop their knowledge of times tables at home, starting with the 2 times tables. Numberblocks (5-10 minute episodes) on the BBC I-player, have some really catchy songs to help learning the tables.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the upcoming parents' evenings, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or queries in the meantime [l.towers@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:l.towers@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk)

Best wishes and many thanks,

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