



Bottisham Community Primary School

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Headteacher: Mark Askew

Year 4/5 Autumn Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I have enjoyed catching up with all the children and listening to what they have been up to over the summer. We have a packed autumn term ahead, and this newsletter will give you key information for the forthcoming term, as well as day-to-day housekeeping rules and routines that will differ from the previous year.



Our New school Values:

This term we are excited to be launching our new whole school values and the learning habits that go alongside these values. Thank you for your help in creating and forming these with us. We feel they are a valuable set of attributes which we aspire to for all our pupils. The children will be exploring these values and habits through assemblies, in lessons and in conversations around the school. We'd love it if you could also talk with the children as we promote these values together.



Curriculum:

This term our topic focus is on History; our theme is '**Ancient World**'. We will be finding out about **Ancient Egyptians** and **Ancient Greeks**. So where did they live and how did they live? Similarities and differences and the legacies of both.

In English, we will be looking at a narrative inspired by the animation of Tadeo Jones '**Inside the Pyramid**'. After this we move on to '**The Tin Forest**' which is linked to a Creative Project by Anglia Learning and will involve us taking a trip to Stapleford Granary. Then we move on to '**Aesop's fables**', which is based fables based around Ancient Greece. After this, we move onto to a non-fiction recount of '**Ancient Greece**'. Our last unit for Autumn term is around '**Earth and Space**'. This will see us learning about our solar system and information regarding space.

In Maths, we are learning about '**Place Value**'. Then we move onto '**Addition and Subtraction**'. After this it's '**Multiplication and Division**' and our last unit for Autumn Term is '**Length, Perimeter and Area**'.

As mentioned above, we will also be going on a trip to Stapleford Granary on Wednesday 8th of October.

What will my child need in school?

Each day, your child will need:

- A healthy morning snack (**no nuts, please**)





- A **named** water bottle (no juice or squash)

School will provide all writing tools, but children may bring a **small pencil case** if they wish. Pencil cases may remain at school, but water bottles should go home daily to be cleaned and refilled.

Year 5 children may now write in **black pen**; the school has provided these for use during the day.

Reading:

We no longer use Accelerated Reader in school. Children should continue reading books from home or the school library to maintain and develop their reading progress.

Please record your child's reading in their Reading Record. I recommend **15 minutes every day**. I will check Reading Records on **Mondays** and award House Points to children who complete this task and have **5** entries within their reading records.

Homework:

Children will receive a **homework book** to complete tasks in.

Homework will be sent out on **Thursdays** and is expected back by the following **Tuesday**. Please support your child by encouraging timely completion.

As some children found the spelling tasks challenging last year, I will continue posting the answers on **Google Classroom**.

Homework in Year 4/5 will include:

- A **times table to learn**, in preparation for weekly tests. We will use **Times Table Rock Stars** as a resource. Although we practise each week in school, it is important that children reinforce this at home — about **5 minutes per day**. There will be a weekly times tables test and occasional battles between classes!
- An **English, Topic or Science** task (approx. 20 minutes)
- A **Spelling Shed** sheet. To support preparation for our weekly spelling test, children can copy the spelling words into their homework books.

Every **Friday**, Maple Class will be tested on the spelling words they have practised.

Soon your child will bring home login details for our online learning programmes.

Times Tables:

Children will be assigned times tables to practise (see homework).

TTRS (Times Table Rock Stars) offers fun activities to help children learn and compete with each other. The **Soundcheck** activity simulates the government's Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). To support broader maths learning, children can also use **NumBots**, accessible through their TTRS login.



PE



First half-term:

- **Wednesdays** – Outdoor PE
- **Mondays** – Indoor PE

After half-term:

- **Wednesdays** – Outdoor PE
- **Thursdays** – Indoor PE

Please ensure your child has a **named PE kit**, which should include:

- A plain white T-shirt
- Navy or black shorts
- Trainers
- Plain jogging trousers and a sweatshirt or hoodie for colder weather





- A **named, drawstring bag** to store their kit

Please note: Children should not wear **jewellery** on PE days. If your child is unable to take part in PE, please provide a written note or inform me at drop-off time.

Indoor Shoes & clothing:

It is essential that **all clothing**, including shoes, is clearly named. Children must change into **indoor shoes** when entering the classroom.

Please ensure your child has a pair of **indoor and outdoor shoes** in school each day. I will check regularly to help keep the classroom carpets clean and safe.

Wearing indoor shoes is also vital in the event of an emergency or fire drill.

Maths and English Guidance:

As children progress through Key Stage Two, they will be learning new strategies and methods, especially in maths, for solving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division problems.

To support your understanding, please refer to the English and Maths booklets available to parents on the school website:

- [Maths Booklet](#)
- [English Booklet](#)

Other things to remember:



Google Classroom

Homework and reminders will be posted on **Google Classroom**. Important information will be sent via **email**.

Please feel free to share photos or videos of your child's achievements or memorable moments on the **Class Stream**.

Year 4 Parents:

As you may be aware, your child will take the Multiplication Tables Check during the summer term. Further information will be shared nearer the time.

Class information:

Maple Class:

Teacher: Mr Goddard

Cover Teacher: Mr Legge

Teaching assistant: Dr Sosnowiec

I hope your child has a **wonderful autumn term!** I'm looking forward to working and learning together with them throughout the year.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Goddard

Y4/5 Class Teacher

