

Autumn Newsletter

Kestrel Class - Miss Reece, Mrs Willis and Mrs Mackay

Welcome to Kestrel class! I hope you had an enjoyable and relaxing summer break and are ready for the challenges of Year 5. This term we will be learning lots about the Ancient Greeks, recapping our knowledge on World Countries and Oceans, learning to programme micro:bits in Computing as well as reading some amazing texts like Shackleton's Journey in our English lessons.

PE Schedule & Equipment

We will have two PE sessions a week this term. Pupils will return to getting changed at school. Please don't send them to school wearing kit. The focus of our PE lessons this term will be Tag Rugby and Basketball. PE will take place on **Mondays (outdoors)** and **Thursdays (indoor)**.

Please ensure your child has the correct PE Kit, including jogging bottoms, a jumper and trainers. PE is a core subject. If your child is unable to participate in a session, we will require a written note to support this.

Times Tables Rock Stars



TT Rock Stars is our interactive programme designed to improve recall of the Times Tables and increase confidence in maths, all while having a rockin' time! Please encourage your child to regularly access this to sharpen their skills.

Accelerated Reader

At school we encourage the children to complete quizzes on the books they have read to check their comprehension.

Many popular books are on the system so if your child has finished a book at home, why not log on to

www.tinyurl.com/westfieldread to see if there's a quiz on it?

Each completed quiz adds to your child's overall word count and at the end of the year they can see how many words they've read!

Home/School communication/home learning

We have access to Class Dojo which is where we will share information about what is going on in the school and the classroom. Please feel free to contact us on Class Dojo using the messaging system.

Reap the rewards of Reading!

Reading a range of genres with fluency and confidence is not only a National Curriculum Objective, but an essential life skill; one that is vital for learning across all subjects and future education. Please **encourage** your children to read at least **3 x per week**, ideally every day. **Ask** them questions about what they've read, **discuss** unfamiliar words and how the language impacts the reader.

Reading logs will be checked every **Thursday**. We will be looking for **at least 3 signed reads per week**. Children that reach certain milestones, show the most improvement or consistency will receive the Champion Reader Award and be displayed in class for all to see!

Year 5 Homework

In addition to reading, all children will be given a maths activity related to what they have been learning in class and should complete a piece of homework from the takeaway menu in their homework book. In addition to this, **Homework should be handed in on Monday** and will be sent home on **Wednesday** each week.

Helping your child at home

Children's homework is to support their learning in school and therefore we appreciate your support with ensuring these are completed on time.

When reading with your child, please ask questions about the book. This will really help to develop their reading comprehension. Ideas for questions can be found in the middle of the Reading Record. Encourage them to write comments written in the Reading Record. They could be answers to questions, opinions or recommendations. If they like the book, please encourage them to say **why!**

Correct School Uniform

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform each day, including black shoes. As the weather is changeable this term, please ensure your child has a coat every day.

