

# Year 5 Newsletter

Year5 - Elm



Oak



Term 2 2023-2024

## Our topic question this term is *If you were a settler, where would you settle?*

The Anglo Saxons came to Britain after the Romans left in 43AD. They managed to settle and eventually establish the Kingdom of England. But what makes a settler? Where would they choose to settle? And what houses would they use?

Our topic challenge is to think about these settlements and explore what makes a good place to settle. We will be using our learning to take part in a settlement game, to try and outlast or take over the other settlements in the game!

In Science, we will be looking at the properties of materials.

Material is 'stuff', and this 'stuff' has certain properties which humans can use for certain jobs. For example, a property of glass is that it is transparent, so we can use it for windows!

But what is 'stuff' made from? Why are some materials in different states? And why do different materials have different properties? Let's find out this term!

In English, we will continue with our book about ninja cats, *Varjak Paw!* The children are really excited to find out the mystery of the Vanishings and the ghost-like Sally Bones. Our second class focus book will be *The Lost Happy Endings*, an unusual and beautifully illustrated fantasy book which prompts some incredible discussions and predictions.

In Maths this term, we will be looking in depth at multiplication and division. In particular, we will be focusing on *factors, products, prime numbers and composite numbers*. We will be finding and exploring the factors of numbers in a systematic way to ensure we have found all possibilities. There is a lot of new language this term which we hope the children will begin to use and understand - please reinforce this at home!

Remember the weather will be getting colder as the weeks go on. Don't forget to bring suitable clothes and accessories. Please make sure *all* items of clothing are labelled as this makes it much easier to return any lost items.

In PE this term, we will be continuing to practise our ball skills as we apply them to the game of netball. We will be thinking about creating space using effective movement off the ball and using good communication to be part of a successful team! In our indoors lessons, we will be using the equipment in gymnastics to explore strength and movement.

You may wear your PE kit to school but please ensure you also wear a school jumper or fleece!

Our teachers remain the same for cover on Wednesday afternoons. Mr Peach will be teaching Oak Class and Mrs Olley will be teaching Elm Class.

In RE, we will be learning about the life of our school's namesake, John Wesley. Wesley was an Anglican minister who wanted to bring the Good News to those who thought themselves unworthy to hear it.

## Homework

Although we may occasionally set formal homework to practise some skills learnt in class, we will not be setting regular homework every week. However, we will be setting a project for the term (this has already been sent out). In addition, we expect you to learn the spellings given, as well as to keep practising times tables on TT Rockstars. Finally, it is also very important for the children to read regularly, (**at least three times per week**). to an adult when they can! (Although you are old enough to read by yourself as well!)

## READ TO SUCCEED

Did you know?:

- Reading can reduce stress by up to 70%!
- Reading every day for 20 minutes means you will have read 2 MILLION words in a year!
- Reading for pleasure is more important for children's cognitive development than their parents' level of education, and is a more powerful factor in life achievement than socio-economic background.

This term, the Christian value for focus is *love*. Love comes in many forms, and we can show love to one another and to ourselves by kind actions and words.

**"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and love your neighbour as yourself."**  
Matthew 7 v12.