



Theale C of E Primary School

Friday 13th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome back to school. It is so lovely to have the children back in the classroom. We are so excited to begin and to get to know everyone so that we can all work together to achieve our personal best. We would like to take this opportunity to outline the key areas of learning for this term as well as some other useful information for you.

The areas of learning that we will be covering this term:

Subject	Overview
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting and character description • Poetry • Procedural Text • Newspaper reports • Letters • Memoir • Story writing from a different perspective
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number and place value (including negative numbers and Roman numerals) • Addition and Subtraction • Multiplication and division • Measurement (Y4 length and perimeter, Y5 perimeter and area) • Coordinates, translation (Y4 and Y5) and reflection (Y5)
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y4 – Animals including humans: the digestive system including teeth and their function; food chains • Y4 – Sound: identify how sounds are made; recognise that vibrations of sound travel from source to ear • Y5 – The circulatory system; impact of diet, exercise and drugs; nutrients and how nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans • Y5 - Earth and Space – movement; the earth, sun and moon as spherical; explanation of day and night and why the sun appears to move across the sky
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglo-Saxons 410-1066
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volcanoes
Art/DT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Architectural adventures</u> This term we will be studying a range of local, national and international architecture. We will consider the role of the architect, structural engineer and landscape artist. Inspired by our research, we will design and build a model of a new space for the school environment.
RE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Christianity:</u> • How important is the role of symbols in Christianity? • What is the most significant part of the nativity story for Christians today?
French	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greetings, introductions, talking about yourself and others • Ask and answer how you are feeling • School subjects and opinions of these • Places in town, directions

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saying what you like to do in your town Buying a ticket or gift French phonics – vowels, consonants including ç and c, some diphthongs, ais Grammar – using ‘as-tu’ in questions, gender of nouns and adjective agreements, forming more complex opinions, giving directions, using ‘j’aime’ and ‘je voudrais’
Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steel panning Film music
Computing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online safety Coding
Life Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual liberty; the environment
PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gymnastics: jumps from height, vaulting, practise, perform, evaluate. Football: close control, long passing, interception, mini games. Tag Rugby: accurate passing, mini games, competitive challenges.

Specialist Teaching

We are fortunate enough to have many specialist teachers and class teachers who have a range of specialisms. The children will have drama, dance and music on a Friday afternoon. These sessions will be taught by Carrie Jones, Claire Bowden and Miss Rowden. We also have Madame Bastable teaching us French language and cultural studies on a Tuesday afternoon. Fortnightly, the children will be taught art and design technology by Mrs Lockhart. Furthermore, the children will continue to learn to play the steel pans with Culture Mix on a Tuesday afternoon. In addition to this, teachers from across the school will be teaching the children in their areas of interest and expertise.

Homework

We are mindful of the children’s workload, so we have focused their homework on key skills that will support their progress. Each week, your child will be assigned reading, spelling, and times tables practice as part of their homework.

Reading is one of the most important skills for your child’s development, and its benefits cannot be underestimated. Therefore, we ask that your child reads at home every day. They have a reading record where you can log their reading progress so that we can appreciate their efforts. Ideally, they should read aloud to an adult to improve fluency and comprehension.

Spelling homework will be assigned weekly through Spelling Shed, in preparation for a spelling test every Monday. Your child will have a set number of games to complete, which focus on the spellings they are learning that week. They will receive a reminder of their login details, and if you need any assistance accessing the platform, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Times tables practice will be set weekly on Times Table Rockstars. Again, we will provide your child with a reminder of their login details. Should you need any support accessing the platform, please let us know. We will also celebrate students' progress on Times Table Rockstars in our weekly collective worship.

The best approach to practising both spelling and times tables is little and often, preferably a few minutes of each every day.

Physical Education

The children will have PE on a Wednesday every other week, as well as a weekly dance lesson with Claire. Children should bring their PE kits into school on Monday morning and take them home on Friday afternoon. Within their PE kit, the children should have red or black shorts, a white t-shirt, trainers, black tracksuit bottoms and a black jumper for outdoor PE. They should also have a change of socks. This is especially important for children who will need to change out of tights for PE. Children with stud earrings should be able to remove these themselves before PE and dance for safety reasons. Only during the ‘healing’ period will children be allowed to wear tape to cover these.

Water Bottles

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the school’s policy on water bottles. Children are kindly requested to bring a bottle containing water which they will have access to throughout the day. We ask for water instead of drinks such as squash because this can be very sticky when spilt and can do a lot of damage to books and equipment. Therefore, water is far better for the children to have within the classroom should any spillages occur! Having water readily available also helps to support our Healthy Schools initiative. The

children may however have a separate drink of squash or similar (no fizzy or energy drinks please) in their lunchbox to be taken into the lunch hall. Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

Uniform

Thank you for returning your child to school looking so presentable. The smart appearance of our children is often noted by the public. Please ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled, especially jumpers. It is school policy that children should tie their hair up if it is long enough (shoulder length) due to health and safety requirements. We also request that children do not have any unnatural colours or extreme styles, i.e. no stripes or shapes cut into their hair, and makeup is not to be worn. Please also note that only discreet hair accessories are permissible. Jewellery is not allowed at school other than a pair of stud earrings; this is again for health and safety reasons.

If you have any questions or concerns as the term continues please feel free to speak to class teachers at the end of the day or ring or email the school office, and we will be happy to respond as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Samantha Price, Rianna Dobashi and Frances Jones

Year 4/5 Class Teachers