



ORCA CLASS NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year! We hope you have all had a wonderful summer. We are very excited to see our lovely children and get started with all the exciting learning we will be completing over the coming few weeks.

Ms Turner will teach Orca Class on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Mrs Sadler will be teaching on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Grant will be with us in the mornings throughout the week.

This newsletter outlines the main topics and units of learning Orca Class will complete this term. We are looking forward to having a focused but fun last term together.

As always, if there are any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch by contacting the school office or speaking to one of us at the end of the day.

Ms Turner, Mrs Sadler and Mrs Grant.

Reading



Reading is **so** important to all of us at Martock. The more we practise our reading, the more we can access all our learning in school. We notice the most improvement in vocabulary and spelling in our writing from the children who are reading the most at home.

Please listen to your child read as often as you can, encouraging them to experience a broad range of texts, such as signs, magazines and labels, as well as books. This will support the development of their writing and comprehension skills.

Reading books and journals should be brought into school each day.

When a child reads to an adult it should be recorded and signed by an adult in the reading journal. Children must have read 4 times per week with an adult's signature. Reading homework is checked on a Friday and raffle tickets for 4 reads will be added to the KS2 raffle draw.

Revision

Revision for Orca Class will include times tables (on TTRockstars) and reading 4 times a week. They will also be expected to learn some spellings and complete either a piece of maths work or reading comprehension.

Spellings and any other revision will be issued on a **Friday** and checked for marking the following **Friday**. The children will have a week to complete any revision work.

PE



Our P.E. days are Monday and Thursday.

Please make sure your child has the correct P.E kit, this consists of a white t-shirt, black leggings or shorts and daps/trainers with socks. This should be left in school during the week. As we will be going outside, please make sure your child has a black jumper and tracksuit bottoms.

Please make sure all PE is clearly named. Children need to remove all jewellery for PE. If children cannot remove their earrings please provide microporous tape so they can be taped over during PE sessions. Any children with long enough hair need to have it tied up for PE sessions

Useful Websites

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games>

<https://trockstars.com/>

<https://ukhosted21.renlearn.co.uk/2231938/>
(Accelerated Reader)

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check> (practise multiplication check.)

English

Across all our learning, we will be improving our grammar and spelling, word reading, comprehension and transcription skills.

Fiction writing: We will be exploring traditional tales and reading The Pied Piper of Hamelin. We will be writing in role, information writing, writing adverts and formal letters.

Own narrative: Following this, the next unit will be exploring themes of kindness and, forgiveness and redemption in The Selfish Giant by Oscar Wilde. The outcome will be their own narratives based on kindness.

Reading: We will be reading the BFG in our guided reading sessions and completing a range of activities linked to the text through out the term.

Maths

We will be covering:

Place value – comparing and ordering numbers on a line. Place value in 3 and 4 digit numbers and amounts of money. Adding and subtracting 1, 10, 100 and 1000.

Addition and Subtraction – different strategies for adding and subtracting, number bonds to 100 and subtracting by counting up (using frog method). Near multiples of 10, 100 and 1000 and how to add and subtract these. Partitioning and column method for addition and subtraction.

Multiplication and division – learning and understanding times tables, partitioning to be able to multiply and divide, looking at different strategies for division.

Fractions – the concept of half, and doubling, finding fractions of shape and of amounts and finding equivalent fractions.

Shape – symmetry with 2D and 3D shape and finding co-ordinates in the first quadrant.

PSHE: Jigsaw

Jigsaw will be taught in year groups. We will all be learning about 'Being me in my world' in an age appropriate way. Year 3 will focus on their hopes and fears for the year, their rights and responsibilities and rewards and consequences. Year 4 will focus on getting to know one another and our hopes and dreams for school.

RE

This term we will be learning about Christianity, focusing on answering two separate enquiry questions; 'What is it like for someone to follow God?' and 'What is the trinity and why is it important for Christians'?

Class 4 Orca Class

Art and Design

In Art this term, we will be developing our drawing skills. The children will work in a variety of media and on a range of different paper.

Design and Technology

We will be learning about how 3D shapes make different structures. We will work out the best way to construct these 3D shapes and then use these to create our own structures.

Music

We will start the term by exploring tuned percussion through our South Africa themed unit of work.

During this unit, we will develop our rhythm skills and our singing and notation skills. After half term, we will further develop our singing skills - learning to recognise rhythm from notation and layer these to create a composition. We will create our own sung compositions and have opportunities to perform them in class.

History

Our topic for the first half of term is 'How have children's lives changed?'. In this topic we will compare what life was like for children in the Tudor period and the Victorian period. We will focus on the jobs they had and how their working conditions changed. We will also explore how leisure activities changed through out these periods of time.

Geography

Next term, our topic will be 'What are rivers and how are they used?'. In this unit of learning we will learn the names and location of some major rivers and be able to discuss the different ways rivers are used. We will develop our map reading skills and develop our knowledge of the water cycle.

Science

Children will be taught science in their year groups, on a Tuesday afternoon. Our Year 3 children will be learning about movement and nutrition and our Year 4 children will be learning about digestion and food.

Computing:

We will start the term by learning how to safely use computer software to send emails. After half term, the children will move onto programming (using Scratch). We will also teach regular online safety lessons to make sure that we know how to be safe online.

Spanish

This term, we will learn numbers to 31, months of the year, saying the date and Mexican birthday traditions.

PE

We will be developing our balance, agility and co-ordination in our fitness sessions and our athletics skills in term 1.