



PENGUIN CLASS NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Penguin Class! We hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful summer break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the new school year. It has been lovely to welcome the children back and see them settling into their new mixed class so positively. Although some children may be feeling a little unsure about new friendships, routines and expectations, we have already been so impressed by the kindness, resilience and enthusiasm they have shown as they get to know one another and begin this exciting journey together. A mixed Year 4/5 class provides a fantastic opportunity for children to learn from each other, build confidence and develop new friendships.

We have an exciting year ahead, filled with engaging topics, memorable experiences and plenty of opportunities for the children to grow both academically and personally. We cannot wait to share our learning journey with you and are sure it will be a fantastic year for everyone.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch if there is anything you would like to discuss.

Mrs Vaughan, Mrs Mann and Mrs Helliard

Reading in Year 5:

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

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

When a child reads to an adult it should be recorded and signed by an adult in the reading journal. Children are expected to read at least four times a week.



PE



Our P.E. day will be Thursday and Friday. Please make sure your child has the correct P.E kit that is clearly named. This should be left in school during the week.

This consists of a t-shirt, dark shorts and trainers. As we will be coming up to winter and we will be going outside, please make sure your child has a jumper and tracksuit bottoms.

A reminder that all jewellery should be removed including earrings. Please ensure your child has tape to cover their ears if earrings can't be taken out. Long hair will need to be tied up for PE sessions.

Useful Websites:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zv48q6f> - BBC Bitesize English KS2

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16&AgeGroup=3&p=2> KS2 Maths

<https://trockstars.com/>

<https://www.edshed.com/> - Spellings

English

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

We have some exciting new texts that we will be using to inspire us, starting with Hidden Figures, Freedom Bird, Shetterly, Beowulf and The Mermaid of Zennor. We will be writing non-chronological reports, poetry, biographies and our own fictional chapters.

PSHE: Jigsaw

Being Me in My world: Learning how we can be responsible citizens to help ourselves and each other every day.

Celebrating Differences: Understanding that everyone is different which is something to be proud of and to celebrate.

RE

This term we will be considering the question, 'Why do Christians call the day that Jesus died 'Good Friday'?' After half term, we will be considering the question, 'What does it mean if Christians believe God is Holy and loving?'

Music

This term we will be learning how to compose music and explore the genre of blues.

PE

We will be developing our communication skills and strategic planning in tag rugby and athletics.

Geography

In Geography, we will be learning about the Alps and considering what life is like in the Alps, why people visit them and exploring the human and physical geography features.

History

Our History topic this term is Vikings, we will be looking to answer the question, 'Were the Vikings raiders, traders or something else?' We will discuss how and why the Vikings came to Britain, where they went when they arrived and how they travelled. We will also look closely at their sagas and question why there are different versions of the same story.

Science

Y4: We will be learning about digestion and food. Exploring the digestive system and food chains. After half term, we will be learning about electricity and practically experimenting with circuits.

Y5: This term we will be looking at Materials, understanding the definition of a mixture and practically experimenting with creating and separating mixtures. After half term, we will be looking at properties and changes in materials exploring reversible and irreversible changes.

Maths

We will be covering:

- Place value – adding and subtracting within 6-digit numbers as well as rounding
- Addition and subtraction – column addition and subtraction, and decimal and money calculation
- Decimals and Fractions – adding and subtracting decimals, dividing by 10/100, mixed numbers and fractions of amounts, equivalent fractions and simplifying fractions
- Measures and Data – understanding if metric and imperial units of measurement, timetables and intervals using 24-hour time, perimeter and area, temperature and negative numbers
- Multiplication and Division – multiples and factors within word problems, prime numbers, grid method and short multiplication, vertical written method for division

Computing:

Computing Systems and Networks: We will develop our understanding of computer systems and search engines.

Creating Media: We will learn how to compose and create short pieces of music, developing our skills of capturing, editing, and manipulating sound.

Spanish

This term we will be learning how to describe our pets and working towards ordering in a café.