



# ST PAUL'S C of E COMBINED SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 5 Firecrests! I hope that you have had a lovely, restful summer, and are looking forward to the academic year ahead. I am very much looking forward to teaching this fantastic class again and progressing through the year together. I am mindful that the transition into a new school year can sometimes cause apprehension and anxiety for some children, but please be assured that the children can talk to staff about any concerns or worries they may be having. Similarly, if you have any concerns, or wish to discuss any matters relating to your child, do not hesitate to contact the office to arrange a phone call, or meeting with me. Mrs Green will also be supporting Year 5 this year.

I hope to build strong home-school relationships with you in order to best support your children's learning. Therefore, I would appreciate your continued support in ensuring children have the correct equipment in school each day (a reading book, pencil, pen and a glue stick!), and that they arrive at school punctually each morning. The end of the day arrangements will be as in previous years – the children are collected from the cones outside the classroom. It is important that the children let me know before they leave the school site with their parent/carer. If there are any changes to pick-up arrangements, please do inform the office detailing the change and your password.

## **PE Days**

This year the children will have their PE lessons on Monday and Thursday afternoon. On these days, the children should arrive at school in their PE kit. Please note that some PE lessons will take place outside, so as the weather gets colder, please make sure they have navy blue tracksuit bottoms and school sweatshirt to keep them warm.

## **The Curriculum**

In Year 5 we will be covering some exciting topics throughout the curriculum. Within these varied topics, a wide range of approaches are used to engage the children in the learning. Where possible, links between subjects have been made to enhance their learning further. This half term, in English, we will be using the book *The Great Kapok Tree* as a stimulus for both persuasive writing, narrative and diary. This ties in with our Geography topic – Rainforests – where the children will be learning about the significance of the rainforest, its impact on the rest of the world, and the effects of deforestation on the planet. In History, the children will learn about the ancient civilisation, The Maya.

In Maths we will be learning about place value to 1,000,000, followed by addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, and fractions. All strands of Maths are taught through the curriculum aims of fluency, problem solving and reasoning.

On Wednesday mornings, Miss Jones will be further consolidating the children's English and Maths skills.

This term, in Science, the children will be learning about Earth and space followed by investigating properties and changes of materials later in the term. In keeping with the

space theme, in Art, the children will be exploring the impact of images from the ‘Space race’ era of the 1950s and 60s and combining drawing and printmaking skills to create futuristic images.

In Design and Technology the children will be developing their cooking skills by designing and making biscuits and designing packaging using the computer.

In Music we will be focusing on composition and notation with an Ancient Egyptian theme followed by learning about Blues music later in the term.

Miss Jones will be teaching RE for the first half term focusing on the Christian rites of passage. The children will then learn about Muhammad, the Muslim seal of the prophets later in the term with myself.

In Computing this term, the children will learn about computing systems and networks as well as creating media such as video production.

Our focus in PE will be the Real PE cognitive and creative cogs, where the children will develop their coordination, agility and balance. These skills will then be put into practice in our problem solving and tag rugby units.

Our French topics for the term include asking for and giving the time and communicating likes and dislikes. Finally, in PSHE, we will focus on ‘being me in my world’ and celebrating difference.

### **Home Learning**

Each week, Home Learning will be set on Teams. The routines and expectations are outlined below. Children are encouraged to continue to use Times Tables Rock Stars to support their learning, as well as....

<b>Subject and Detail</b>	<b>Day Given</b>	<b>Day Returned</b>
Reading Regular reading and discussion of a text with an adult. This should be logged on BoomReader. A minimum of 15 minutes, 4 times per week.	Monday	Monday
Spellings – Set on Teams 6 words linked to spelling pattern taught – daily practice	Friday (daily practice)	Friday (test in class)
Spelling sentences/Spelling activity – Set on Teams Spelling sentences or a spelling activity to support the learning of spelling words each week.	Friday	Friday am
Home Learning Choice – Set on Teams Select a Home Learning Choice activity from the grid and complete to the best of your ability. This should take approx. 45 minutes.	Friday	Thursday am

Home learning is a very important part of our children's learning journey as it enhances their learning whilst in school and instils study skills in preparation for the next stage of their schooling. It is also a great way for families and carers to be involved in their child's education, giving a chance to talk about their learning.

Please encourage your child to complete their home learning and ensure this is uploaded on time. For children who do not complete home learning on a regular basis, we will invite parents/carers in to discuss reasons why and to identify if support is required to complete the home learning. If there is a reason why a child can not complete a particular piece of home learning, perhaps due to illness or something unexpected arising at home, then please let the class teacher know.

I hope this will be a successful and enjoyable first term of Year 5 for your child. I am really looking forward to teaching the children this year and working alongside you in fostering their love of learning.

If you have any queries, please do come and speak to me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Walker  
Year 5 Class Teacher

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