

Welcome to Dragonflies Class

Welcome to Dragonflies Class and the beginning of Year 5!

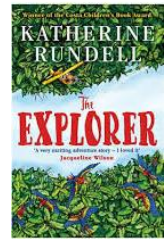
I can't wait for a fantastic year together and it is a real pleasure to be the class teacher this year!

The adults working in our class will be myself (Mrs Lloyd), Mrs Lenton, Mrs Mould and Mrs Cowlshaw. Monday afternoons will be taught by Mrs Dallison and Wednesday afternoons will be taught by Mrs Askew.

This newsletter aims to set out the key information to be shared about this half term. I will keep you up to date on any extra information on our class page and through text messages.

Our Class Book

The Explorer by Katherine Rundell will be our class text for this half term. We will use it in our Whole Class Guided reading sessions and we will read it at the end of the day.



Writing

During this half term, we will be taking part in a whole school writing activity based on a short, animated clip 'The Lighthouse'. The children will have the opportunity to become expert writers and write their own version of the story. We will then use our class book to write a narrative that focuses on the beginning of a story. Finally, we will be writing a newspaper article; this will also be based on The Explorer.

+ Maths +

We will cover a range of topics throughout the half term, focusing mainly on Place Value and Number skills. We follow the White Rose Maths Scheme. We begin with Place Value, this will include rounding, comparing and ordering numbers, numbers to 10,000,000, Roman numerals, etc. Then, we will move onto Addition and Subtraction. This will include the column methods and learning a range of mental strategies for adding and subtracting large numbers.

Science



Our topic is Changes and Properties of Materials. This is a big topic, with lots of learning so we will be covering this until Christmas. We will cover Thermal and Electrical insulators and conductors and properties of materials this half term. This will involve theoretical learning and practical application of this learning. Practical sessions are a great way to understand science and the children will work in teams to complete a variety of interesting experiments and then will have the opportunity to record their results.

Other curriculum areas include:

- PE – orienteering (Thursday) Children need to bring in a full PE kit to change in school. As the weather starts to get colder, I recommend joggers and a jumper/hoodie in addition to shorts and T-shirts. Plain white tops (No crop/belly tops) In Autumn one, we will have PE on a Thursday. Children will come home in their PE kit each week.

The children are lucky enough to get to take part in Forest School afternoons with Mrs. Mould and Mrs. Lenton. The children will be split into two groups. On a Wednesday afternoon, half of the class will get to do Forest School and the other half will be in the

classroom. Then they will swap next half term. A separate letter has been sent out. It is important that the permission slips are returned ASAP.

- Art – Blending and shading based on Henri Rousseau
- Music – Listen, appraise, singing, improvise skills- Dancing in the street
- PSHE – Our R.S.H.E topic will focus on a topic called 'Be Yourself'. This topic will be focusing on loving ourselves and understanding our emotions.
- French – Taught on a Wednesday afternoon by Mrs Schumann.
- Computing – In computing we will be covering a topic that focuses on understanding how computer systems work.
- Religious Education - Why do some people believe God exists?

Supporting learning at home:

Spellings: Spellings will be taught in school, and lists will be sent home to learn. A spelling overview with some example words is available on the class page. (New spellings will be given out on a Friday and tested the following Thursday)

Reading: Every child needs to read every day; including weekends. In Year 5, children should aim to read for at least 15-20 minutes and talk to an adult about what they have read. Children will be given a reading journal to record their reading. During this half term, children will be supported in setting up and organising this journal and they should be in school every day. As the year progresses, children will become more independent in organising their own journal. I appreciate parents support in checking and encouraging their child to update their reading regularly and listening to their child read.

Homework: Children will be set weekly homework on a Friday which will be due back the following Wednesday. It will follow this Friday-Wednesday pattern throughout the year. You may support your child in tasks but please ensure if they are struggling that they know they can ask me for help.

- Children are welcome to do their homework in school, during playtime if they do not have time at home. We really don't want homework to be a source of stress or anxiety, only an extension of the children's learning at school. If your child is struggling with their homework, please stop and bring it in to school. An adult will go through it with them.

If you have any questions to ask, or have information to tell me, please get in touch via the school office (julie.carter@littleeaton.derbyshire.sch.uk or 01332 831471) I will also be available on the playground at the end of the school day.

Thank you in advance for your support,

Mrs Lloyd.