

Badger Class Newsletter

Autumn 2024



Welcome to Year 5! I hope the children have all enjoyed their first week back.

Following on from my newsletter last week, this will give you a bit more information about what we will be learning over the coming half a term and term.

Adults in Year 5 are as follows:

Mrs Angela Sanders – teacher Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Mrs Sue Bishop – teacher Thursday, Friday

Mrs Ruddick – teaching assistant Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

If you need to **contact us** about anything (no question is too silly), you can catch us at the door after school with any quick queries, or you can email me on:

asanders@tewincowper.herts.sch.uk

Uniform

Please ensure your child has the correct uniform and it is named. All children must have school shoes not trainers on non-PE days. Earrings should be small studs only. If there is a reason why they don't have the correct uniform, please notify me so I am aware.

Lunches and snack

Children may bring in their own snack, but this must be a piece of fruit.

What to bring each day

- Water bottle (named)
- Book bag (no rucksacks)
- Reading folder (record and book)
- Coat, sun hat (weather dependent)

Please label ALL clothing!

Drop off and collection

Drop off – between **8.35am and 8.45am**, at the side gate. Children walk through the playground to their classroom. Please try to be on time, because we often do one to one reading during the first part of the day.

Collection – at **3.15pm**.

If you have given permission for your child to walk home or to the green without an adult, this will start from Monday 9th September. If you haven't and would like to, ask the office for a form. I will walk down to the green on the first day to ensure they will be doing this safely and sensibly each day.

Reading

We don't set any regular formal home learning activities at Tewin Cowper. Instead, we really want families to focus primarily on reading, because it underpins *everything* the children learn in school. Reading supports writing, imagination, vocabulary, empathy comprehension, communication...to name but a few things!

Children in year 5 should be reading for pleasure every day. The children should have a reading book that is appropriate for their reading level and alongside that, they may also have a reading for pleasure book. Please encourage your child to read aloud to you but we do understand as they get older they are less keen. We do ask though that you are checking that they are reading every day and having a discussion with them about what they have read, the characters in their books and how the book is making them feel. Please write in their reading records when they read to you and they can write in their own reading as well. I will put together some suggested question prompts over the next couple of weeks to support you with this. We read with your child as often as possible in class but we have very little time available for this so we do rely on them taking responsibility for their own reading as they get older.

Please remind them to bring their book home each day and bring it back to school the next day.

Other home work

Please keep continuing to practice times tables, they are so important to be secure on as this knowledge helps them with so many other maths concepts.

We do not send home spellings to practice but the children will have a list of statutory words that they are expected to learn over the course of year 5 and 6. These will be given to children in a folder which you can practice at home should you wish. What is most important about these spellings is that they don't just learn to spell them for a test, but are able to apply them to every day writing.

Class reading book

We will be finishing *The Wild Robot Escapes* in class to start off with then move on to another that they will choose as a class.

PE

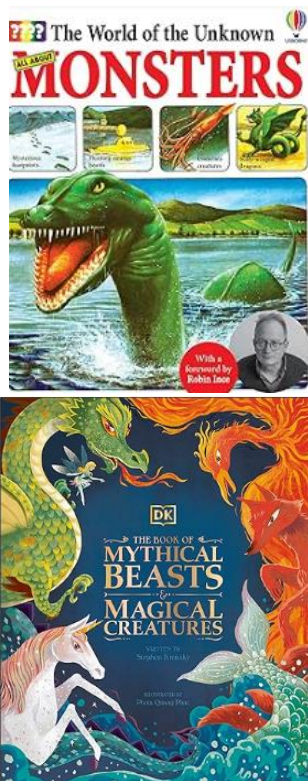
PE will take place on **Mondays and Tuesdays. Please make sure your child has the Tewin Cowper branded t-shirt and jumper.** Children must come into school dressed in the new PE kit on those days. If you have ordered your child's kit but it has not arrived yet, please let them wear the old kit for now, and then use the new kit as soon as you have it.

They will be doing half of their PE lessons outside this first half term, so must be wearing clothing appropriate for the weather, as well as suitable trainers.

Autumn Term: learning overview

English

We are starting this half term by learning how to write a non-chronological report about Mythical Creatures using the following texts. We will be learning how to inform our reader about our mythical creature.



Maths

We will be covering place value this half term with a main focus on decimal fractions and money. WE will be covering tenths, hundredths and thousandths and understanding the relationships between these numbers.

We use the NCETM mastery approach for maths which allows us to ensure full

PE

The class is taught by Premier Education for one lesson. They will be doing gymnastics with Premier. With me, the children will be doing OAA (Outdoor Adventurous Activities) which includes a lot of communication and teamwork.

Music

We will journey into Ancient Egypt, learning some composition notation skills.

Science

Mrs Bishop will be teaching the children all about mixtures and separation. This will include filtering, sieving, evaporation.

Art

This term's focus is Sculpture and 3D so we will be looking at some 3D interactive art installations and creating our own.

History

During the first half term we will be doing History, exploring the question: **How did the Maya civilisation compare to the Anglo-Saxons?** The children will learn about the Maya civilisation, investigate how the Maya settled in the rainforest, their religious beliefs, homes and what archaeological remains tell us about Maya cities. Using primary evidence, they examine theories into how the Maya cities declined.

Geography

After half term we will start our Geography unit which explores the question: **What is life like in the Alps?** Considering the climate of mountain ranges and why people choose to visit the Alps; focusing on Innsbruck and looking at the human and physical features that attract tourists; investigating tourism in the local area and mapping recreational land use; presenting findings to compare the Alps to the children's own locality.

Computing

We will start with a lesson on online safety then after half term children will be learning about search engines and how they work and then looking at how the Mars Rover sends data.

Design and Technology

Mrs Bishop will be developing a recipe with the children looking at a spaghetti Bolognese recipe. This builds on our adapting a recipe that the children did in the summer when they baked biscuits. They will then go on to look at electrical systems.

PSHE

We start by thinking about our relationships with each other and others outside school. We move onto valuing difference: considering what makes us the same or different from other people.

French

Mrs Bishop will be recapping core vocabulary and then teaching classroom commands.

RE

In our Creation unit, we will discuss the theories of Creation and Science and whether they are conflicting or complimentary.