

Torrige Class Parent's Newsletter

Autumn 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to our Autumn Term. This year we welcome into school Mrs Rosy Phillips who will be working in Taw class for three days while Mr Parsons is working as SENCo within the federation. Mrs Phillips is an experienced class teacher and has recently moved to North Devon.

This term we have lots of new ventures to enjoy before our Christmas activities at the end of term. We launch our Rights Respecting Schools Award: children will be gaining a better understanding of their rights under the Children's Charter and gain a better understanding of the work of UINCEF; we continue to work towards our Silver Accreditation for the Eco-Schools Award; we hope to attend the South Molton Carnival in September and we look forward to having an Activity /Open Day to encourage new parents to come to view our school in October.

This term we will be focusing on the presentation of our work in all subjects. There is an expectation that pupils join handwriting and write in pencil if Year 3/4 or pen if Year 5/6. Titles should be underlined with a ruler. Work should start at the left hand side of a page. Errors are a natural and important part of the learning process: I do not require errors to be rubbed out - in fact, I will celebrate and praise children who have noticed errors and self-correct. Therefore errors should be corrected either with a neat line draw through the words or with a cross and astrix to show the corrected content elsewhere on the page. Please encourage homework to be completed to the same standard as that expected in class.

Our spellings this year are taught in two groups (Year 3/4 and Year 5/6) on Monday and Thursday mornings. Children will be learning spelling patterns and tested in school. Spelling homework will be sent home most weeks which should reinforce this learning.

Children will continue to be encouraged to read for pleasure and they will have a challenge of completing books to add coloured stickers to their 'butterfly' displayed in class. These books do not have to be from our school library and children can add 'home books' to their free reading list.

In our literacy lessons this term we will be studying the story of Beowulf and making comparisons between that and the poem Jabberwocky, we will write kennings and write a play script connected to our topic. We will also learn to write effective text to persuade and to debate issues.

2020 is the first time that Y4 pupils will sit an online test of their times table knowledge. Each day children will be challenged to complete 20 times table question within 60 secs or 30secs. This is a hard challenge to meet but encourages children to have instant recall of their table facts in a fun way where each day their aim is to beat their previous day's score. Tables will be taught in school to Year 3 and Year 4 but all years need to practise/learn their tables as homework.

This term our science topic is animal nutrition, food chains, food webs and our digestive system. After half term we will study light and how humans see objects. Science will be taught by myself in the first half term on Thursday and Friday afternoons and by Mr Parsons on Monday afternoon after half term. DT this term will be food technology and children will compose a nutritious menu and cook part of their meal.

Our study of history this term will be the Anglo Saxon and Viking invasion of Britain up to the Battle of Hastings. We will learn about the rulers of Britain and how they impacted upon the course of Britain's history. We will be linking our literacy and our computing to this topic; in computing we will make a film documentary on the Viking invasion at Lindisfarne and make an animation of a legend about King Alfred.

We continue our study of Italian and this term and we will widen our vocabulary and engage in more conversations; learn about the city of Rome and sing Italian songs.

PHSE this term will be taught by Mr Parsons for the first half of term and by myself for the second half. This term we will be learning about Rights and Responsibilities in PHSE. Forest school will also continue for the first half of term on a Monday afternoon. Please make sure the children have a change of clothing for forest school, as even if the ground is dry, they could snag their school uniform on brambles. Mindfulness and Well Being will continue to be part of our PHSE.

During the first half of term, Achieve4All will be teaching PE on Tuesday. During the second half of term I will teach PE. This term there is likely to be a netball tournament and a football tournament. PE kit should contain blue shorts, yellow T-shirt and trainers and optional navy tracksuit bottoms. All kit should be named – including trainers. Please keep PE kit in school for the whole week as timetable variations can often occur.

In RE this term children will study the Hindu gods. We will also study the festivals of harvest and Christmas.

Mrs Collins will continue to teach our music on Wednesday morning. She will be preparing for a singing concert later in the term.

We aim to end the term with a Christmas performance. More details of this will be made available after half term.

As you can see, this term there are differences between each half term. For the first half of term I have leadership time on Monday afternoon and Wednesday morning and preparation and marking time on Tuesday afternoon. The class is taught by Mrs Pierson on Monday afternoon, A4A and Mr Parsons on Tuesday afternoon and Mrs Collins and Mrs Phillips on Wednesday morning. After the half term my planning and marking time will be on Friday afternoon: I will be in class all day on Tuesday and Mrs Phillips will teach art in Torridge on Friday afternoon.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's time in Torridge Class please make an appointment to see me either first thing in the morning or after school if I am available.

Yours truly,

Wendy Evans

Below is our timetable for this term. More details about the whole year's curriculum can be found on our web site.

Day	8.50-9.00 10min	9.00- 9.25 25 min	9.25 -10.15 50 min	20 min	10.35- 11.40 65 min	20 min		13.30 – 13.55 25 min	13.55 - 14.40 45 min	14.40 – 15.25 45 min
Mon	Register Tables challenge <i>Silent reading</i>	Group Spelling	Literacy	Break 10.15 – 10.35	Maths	Assembly 11.40- 12.00	Lunch	<i>Silent reading</i>	Forest School for ½ term Science with Mr Parsons for ½ term	
Tues	Register Tables challenge <i>Silent reading</i>	Group Reading	Literacy		Maths			PE with A4A for ½ term then Mrs Evans for ½ term	PHSE with Mr Parsons for ½ term then Mrs Evans for ½ term	
Wed	Register <i>Silent reading</i>	Arithmetic	Music with Mrs Collins	OTB alt wks Break	Literacy With Mrs Phillips	History		ICT		
Thurs	Register Tables challenge	Group Spelling	Literacy	Break 10.15 – 10.35	Maths	Assembly		RE	Science then DT for ½ term Drama for ½ term	
Fri	Register Tables challenge <i>Silent reading</i>	Handwriting	Literacy		Maths			<i>Silent reading</i>	MFL	Science then DT for ½ term
									Art with Mrs Phillips ½ term	