

Torrige Parents Newsletter – Autumn Term 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new term in Torrige Class. This new school year is likely to be different from others for a number of reasons.

The work in Mole has now been completed and we have a lovely 'new' classroom for teaching KS2. This allows the old Torrige Classroom to become a 'school hall' which is big enough for the dining tables kept to one end while still providing an open space for quick PE/mindfulness sessions without the need to move tables. The 'hall' will also be used for splitting teaching groups.

Pre-School: This term we start our full time Pre-School offer. The number of children in Taw is very low and hopefully a full-time preschool will encourage other parents to look upon Chittlehampton favourably.

Staffing: Mrs Philips and Mrs Rogers will work 2.5 days each, primarily in KS1 but they will also cover teaching in KS2 when I have administrative time. Mrs Burrige and Mrs Cook will continue to support all teachers. Mrs Collins will continue to teach both classes and Achieve 4 All will be teaching PE on Tuesday afternoon during the first half of term. There will be occasions when the two classes merge.

Curriculum: I know that the children have had a very disruptive 6 months of education and some children will have missed more learning than others. I will aim to make an assessment of where children are in their learning before the end of the month and will then plan support, where needed, to bring children's learning back in line with where they need to be. Please do not allow your children to worry if they have not completed all learning tasks sent home last term. It is vitaly important that children and parents are honest with me as to where they feel they have gaps in their learning. Although the 3R's are essential learning and gaps in learning needs to be closed it is also important that the curriculum contains creative aspects and continues to be a broad curriculum. Having different teachers teaching the wider curriculum ensures these subjects continue to be covered.

In literacy, we will be focusing upon our spellings, punctuation and grammar. Children will be encouraged to check work carefully to ensure they apply punctuation, grammar and spellings correctly. Spelling homework will be given weekly. I would like children to be mindful of their presentation and handwriting and writing in all curriculum subjects should be to the same standard expected in literacy books. Reading for pleasure will be encouraged by children having a 'reading passport' to complete during the year. Children are encouraged to read a set reading list as well as having the option of reading books of their own choice. Children should be encouraged to read every night as part of their homework.

In maths we will continue to follow the White Rose teaching schemes. It is important that all children have a rapid recall of times table facts and we will continue with our daily times tables challenges tests. Children should be practicing their tables each week as homework.

Science will be taught by Mrs Rogers on Tuesday afternoons. This term we will learn about the life cycle of plants and the following term it will learn about sound and hearing.

Geography will be taught by Mrs Philips on Wednesday morning during the first half of term and we will study Europe. During the second half of term History will be The Ancient Greeks.

This half term we have Chance to Shine teaching cricket and Achieve 4 All teaching PE. During the second half of term Mrs Rogers will teach PE. Year 5 and Year 6 will also have the opportunity to complete bikeability training. A separate letter will follow for these children.

Mrs Rogers will also teach PHSE when we look at strengths and challenges in our lives; recognizing our feeling and learning techniques to manage them. Next half term we will study discrimination, stereotypes and identity. During the second half of term Mrs Rogers will also teach Italian.

In RE we will complete a study of Muslims and after half term investigate whether following God brings freedom and justice to Christians.

Art will be a study of Monet and impressionism create outdoor scenes. We will build alarms in DT during the second half of term.

In computing I will teach the children to use emails and other ways of sharing information through the internet. We will learn how to fully use the remote learning platforms we will use should school have to shut again and we will discuss how to keep ourselves safe while we share information with others. A letter about pupil log-ins for children's accounts will be sent home.

Mrs Collins will teach percussion instruments and rhythm in the style of Stomp music. Unfortunately we are still limited to how we can sing and perform together. This means we are not going to have an end of term performance. (The time we would spend on rehearsals can be spent on closing gaps in learning this term.) I hope we might to be able to have a performance of some sort at the end of the year.

Homework this year will be set and completed online. This will give children the opportunity to practice remote learning teaching styles. Year 6 will be offered extra homework which will be paper based. This will help to prepare them for SATs which we are still expecting to take place in May 2021.

If you have concerns about your child's time at school please ask to speak to me and we can organise a 'covid safe' meeting.

I hope this term is a positive and enjoyable experience for your children.

Yours sincerely,

Wendy Evans

Torridge 1 st Half Term					
Day	morning	morning	morning	afternoon	afternoon
Mon	Guided reading	Literacy WE	Maths WE	PE Chance to shine	PHSE Mrs Rogers
Tues	Guided reading	Literacy WE	Maths WE	PE A4A	Science Mrs Rogers
Wed	Speed tables test	Music Mrs Collins	Geography Mrs Philips	Maths WE	Literacy WE
Thurs	Spelling	Literacy WE	Maths WE	RE WE	Computing WE
Fri	Spelling	Literacy WE	Maths WE	Catch up WE	ART 1.5hr WE

Torridge 2 nd Half Term					
Day	morning	morning	morning	afternoon	afternoon
Mon	Guided reading	Literacy WE	Maths WE	MFL Mrs Rogers	Science Mrs Rogers
Tues	Guided reading	Literacy WE	Maths WE	PHSE Mrs Rogers	PE Mrs Rogers
Wed	Speed tables test	Music Mrs Collins	History Mrs Philips	Maths WE	Literacy WE
Thurs	Spelling	Literacy WE	Maths WE	RE WE	Computing WE
Fri	Spelling	Literacy WE	Maths WE	Catch up	DT 1.5hr