

# Turtles Class Newsletter

## Autumn 2018

Welcome to our new school year! I am excited to begin teaching at Grade Ruan, and I hope you are all excited to be back! If you have any queries, please come and see me.

### **Uniform and PE Kit:**

Everyone is looking very smart, thank you! Please make sure **ALL** clothing, and other items belonging to your children are named.

PE will be on a Thursday afternoon with Mr Studd, with Year 4 children also beginning sailing on Friday afternoons.

PE Kit: Plain dark shorts, blue t-shirt, plimsols or trainers, a change of socks. (Winter Coat, hat, track-suit bottoms, fleece, or tracksuit top—layers to keep warm!)

### **Rewards:**

In Turtles this year we will be using Class Dojo to earn points and rewards, both individually and as a class. Children can earn points for effort, good work, following the school rules and good behaviour.

Children can also be awarded **Star of the Week** which will be awarded in assembly.

**Pen licenses** can also be earned for good effort with handwriting in all lessons.

### **Homework:**

Children should be reading at home every night for at least 10 minutes. When listening to your children read please record this in their reading record, which will be checked at school. Reading records and reading books should come into school every day.

There will be a weekly spelling test on Friday. Your child should have brought the spellings for this half-term home—if not, please come and get a new sheet from me.

There will also be further homework set each week on Friday, due in before the following Friday. This will be related to our English or Maths learning.

## **Our learning:**

In the mornings, Year 2, 3 and 4 will be taught together with Miss Blee, Miss Phills and Tamsyn Bray for English and Maths lessons. In the afternoon, Year 3 and 4 will join Years 5 and 6 with Mrs Talbot and Katey Jane, while Year 2 join Starfish class. For more information on their afternoon learning, please see Starfish and Orcas' learning overviews. For more information on our English and maths learning, please keep reading.

## **English:**

- The Great Fire of London  
We will be looking at the Great Fire as part of our Disasters and Triumphs topic, sequencing the events of the fire, writing recounts, diary entries and poetry based on the fire.

- Quest  
For narrative writing, we will be looking at the wordless story book, Quest, and adding our own words to the story.

- War Game  
As the centenary of the end of WW1 approaches, we will study this important historical event through the story War Game.

- Grammar and spelling  
Grammar and spelling will be taught through our English units, with weekly spellings also sent home for children to learn.

- Handwriting  
Handwriting will be taught in lessons several times each week, focusing on the correct joins and letter formation.

## **Maths**

This year we will be following a mix of the Abacus and Hamilton schemes of work, with children completing work specific to their year group objectives.

Lessons will cover:

- Place value
- Number facts (Year 2)
- Money
- Time
- Addition and subtraction
- Length, position and direction
- Fractions
- Doubling and halving
- Properties of shape
- Multiplication and division (Year 3/4)
- Statistics

We will also be using Nifty Numbers to help children gain fluency and speed in their calculations, and learning times tables.