

Greenvale Primary School
Autumn Term Curriculum Newsletter
Year 5 – Kestrels

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the start of a new and exciting year.

This curriculum newsletter is written to provide parents with information about what your children will be learning during the term.

Below is a brief summary of the main topics that will be covered this term.

English	This term we will be linking all our English to a selection of quality texts such as <i>The Boy in the Girls' Bathroom</i> , <i>Varjak Paw</i> and <i>Slam Poetry</i> . We will, wherever possible, make links with our IPC unit on the Ancient Greeks, Romans, Anglo Saxons and Vikings.
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number & place value in 5 digit numbers • Mental addition & subtraction of 2 & 3 digit numbers • Understanding place value in decimal places • Dividing and multiplying by 10, 100 & 1000 • Using multiplication strategies to times by 20 & 25 • Converting between 24 hr and 12 hr clock • Calculating time intervals using 24 hr clock notation • Solve subtraction sums using 3 & 4 digit numbers • Find change from a multiple of 10 by adding up
IPC	<p>The Great, The Bold And The Brave</p> <p>In History, we'll be finding out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about the <i>Greek</i> city-states of Athens and Sparta. • how people voted in Athens and Sparta. • how the Persian Wars impacted on <i>Greece</i>. • what the Parthenon can tell us about Athenian life. • about the origins of the <i>Olympic Games</i>. • how to perform our own <i>Greek</i> play. • about the life of <i>Alexander the Great</i>. • why Rome had a republic and then an emperor. • what daily life was like in Ancient Rome. • what happened when the Romans invaded another country. • why the Roman Empire declined. • what happened when the Anglo-Saxons invaded and settled in Britain. • about the life and legacy of <i>Alfred the Great</i>. • how to use archaeological evidence to find out about the past. • about the history of Britain from Roman occupation to the

	Norman Conquest.
ICT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We are Architects: the unit focuses on productivity and creating a virtual space.</i>
PSHE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Boy in the Girls' Bathroom, a key book of this term, has many PSHE related issues we will explore, including our term's values: respect and honesty.
RE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christianity – sacred and inspirational writings and then Christmas.
Spanish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Syradd will continue with these weekly lessons focusing on acquiring everyday vocabulary and speaking simple sentence.
Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>what Greek or Roman music may have sounded like. What type of instruments they used. Songs with a history related theme.</i>

During the term, it is likely that at some point you will need to get in contact with a member of staff. We ask that you avoid the mornings as these are when we are usually busy preparing the classroom for the day ahead. However, if it is urgent, please do not hesitate to speak to the teaching assistant when they collect the class from the playground in the morning. Please also make use of the class wallets located directly outside the classroom to leave a note for a member of staff.

If you wish to speak with a member of staff about your child, the best time to do this is directly after school. We do however ask that you try to avoid a Wednesday as this our day for staff meetings. Finally, we do provide parents with our email addresses. Please feel free to write an email to us and we will do our best to get back to you promptly. Please note that emails may not necessarily be checked or responded to immediately but will be checked regularly during the week.

Uniform

At Greenvale, we have very high expectations for uniform. If for some reason your child is unable to wear an item of school uniform, please ensure that your child's class teacher is notified on that particular day.

Reading

It is expected that you will read with your children each night. In year 5 this should be approximately a minimum of 20 minutes. Please discuss the book with them to help to develop their comprehension skills. Focus on 'why do...' and 'how do you know that?' questions rather than 'what'. Children will participate in guided reading sessions whilst at school and can change their home reading book as appropriate.

The Y5 10 Before 10 Booklist has been updated and includes a range of books to interest all readers. Please encourage your child, of whatever ability, to read all of these. This may be independently, alongside you or you reading the whole book to them. The point is your child is reading a range of books regularly, developing a deeper understanding and experiencing a wealth of quality writing and vocabulary.

Maths

It is a national expectation that all children know every times table up to 12x12 by the END of year 4. Please make every effort to support your child in learning these. Each week the whole class will have a test called 'The Golden 60'. This is to see how many of the 60 multiplication and division questions set, they can answer in a minute. Each week they will bring home their test for you to see their progress. Please help them increase their scores.

Without an understanding of these key facts, your child will find accessing the maths curriculum difficult without securing this knowledge. I would therefore ask that you work with us and ensure that these are practised regularly at home.

Please continue to work on these at home with your children. This also applies to those who already have received their gold award.

Homework

Spellings will be issued on a Thursday and tested each Thursday. Homework is expected to be completed and returned the following Monday. It is marked in class during our homework exhibition on a Monday afternoon.

Please note that it is the child's responsibility for this to be completed and that if there is ever any uncertainty, they need to speak to a member of staff so that we are able to discuss this with them.

Stars are rewarded for the effort that each child has put into their homework. At the end of each half term, the children with the highest number of stars will receive a certificate and will also be named on the school newsletter.

PE

Trampolining lessons will be on Wednesday morning and PE lessons will be held on Thursday afternoons.

For both of these sessions long hair must be tied up and earrings must be removed.

If for some reason your child is unable to partake in P.E, parents will have to provide a note explaining the reasons as to why.

Trips

This term we have two events planned in relation to our IPC Unit:

- On Thursday October 19th Y5 will travel by coach to Lullingstone Roman Villa. This will include 2 workshops on Roman life. This will cost approximately £20.
- On Tuesday 5th December we will enjoy an Anglo-Saxon day in school. This will involve dressing up and learning about Saxon life up to the invasion of the Normans in 1066. This was a really excellent event last year, thoroughly enjoyed by all. The cost is expected to be around £12.

Please note that there may be an opportunity for parents to attend a visit along with the class at some point during the year. As this can often be quite popular, names will be placed into a hat and chosen by the children.

Advance Notice for Spring Term

- Whitgift Week will take place during the week of 26th April. Children will attend Whitgift School every day from Monday to Friday that week. Please note that they will need to be dropped off at the Whitgift school gates from 9.40 each morning and collected from there at around 2pm.

Volunteers

At Greenvale, we are incredibly lucky to have so many parents and volunteers who are able to give up so much time to help out in class. If you are able to help out in class, please get in contact via email so that a suitable time can be arranged. We are especially keen to welcome parents to hear readers on Wednesday mornings from 9am up until to break time.

Items needed

Please can you continue to send your children in with boxes of tissues for use within class. We would also appreciate any donations of recyclable items (kitchen rolls, cereal boxes, yoghurt pots, shoe boxes, etc).

Yours sincerely,

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