

# Cougars' Class

## Autumn Newsletter

Welcome back! Last year was pretty different wasn't it? First of all I wanted to say a massive well done to each and every one of you (yes adults, that includes you too!). Lockdown learning was by no means an easy task but you all rose to accept the challenge with fantastic results! I am so proud that I get the chance to be your teacher again and I honestly cannot wait for all the fun we are going to have this year! Miss Poole

### School day

To ensure that there is plenty of social distancing taking place at school, the times of our school day have changed. We are lucky enough to have a later start but that does mean we have a later finish too! Make your way into school between 8.50am-9.00am and I will send you out again from 3.25pm-3.30pm. Please could we ask that if an adult is bringing the children to school, that they could be dropped off at the gate in the morning? If permission has been granted, children will walk out of school by themselves. If not, please wait outside the Year 6 classroom in a suitable place so as to not block any walkways for others.

### What are we learning

This half term, our English and maths learning is going to focus heavily on trying to fill those gaps where learning opportunities were missed because of all this year's drama. This will give us the chance to recap and also stretch ourselves with what we already know before moving onto new content.

In the wider curriculum, our area of study will be Windrush in history, classifying living things and their habitats in science and a comparison study of the UK, Europe and North/South America in geography. We will also get the opportunity to explore our creative sides with art skills, mechanisms in DT and programming in computing as well as our usual RE, music, PE and French sessions.

### PE

Please, please, please can you make sure that all PE kits are named clearly? Things always have a way of going missing! We have PE on a Tuesday afternoon (where the children will go home in their PE kits) and a Thursday morning first thing. For the Thursday session, please could the children come into school wearing their PE kit as it'll save time and give them a longer session.

### Homework and spellings

The homework grids that the children are used to will continue being used this year. Each week the children will be asked to: read at least 4 times, practise spellings, read that week's knowledge organiser and complete a maths and English challenge. The grid will need to be ticked and signed to show it has been completed, which will be checked. The homework will be set and collected in on Fridays.

### Recommended reading list

As a school, we are really encouraging our children to immerse themselves with reading and I will be posting on Dojo a recommended reading list. As a massive reader myself, I cannot wait to start talking so much more about books. The recommended reading list is a list of texts that I have suggested would be worth reading throughout the autumn term and there will (hopefully) be links to the learning that takes place in our classroom, as well as the odd gem I have stumbled across!

### Messages and contact

As we are encouraging children to be dropped off at the gate when they enter school, please could I ask that any messages for me be sent on Dojo. You all know I'm on there all the time so I'll definitely pick them up!