



Radley CE Primary School & Foundation Stage Unit

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Dear Parents,

We are delighted how quickly the children have settled into Thames Class following the summer break. The Year 5 children have risen to the challenge of greater independence and the Year 6 children are setting a positive example as the eldest in the school.

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Holt back to Thames Class as our Teaching Assistant, and Mrs Goddard will be continuing her role in supporting Thames and other areas of the school.

This term we will be having swimming lessons on Monday afternoons beginning the week of the 13th September. In addition to this, we are fortunate to continue to receive support from Ignite Sports for our weekly PE lesson on Thursdays.

During the week beginning 20th September, children will have the opportunity to experience a range of music activities, kindly organised by Radley College and we may even have a trip to Abingdon for a collaborative concert. Later in the term, we are hoping to arrange a school trip linked to our Science topic. As part of our topic on Super Seasonal Foods, the children will have the opportunity to enjoy sampling a variety of seasonal fruits and vegetable. At present, we are planning our residential trip to Kilvrough in May. More details about these events will follow!

Our whole-school Christian value of the term is Relationships. We will explore this value through class discussions and whole-school assemblies.

For the rest of the term, Thames Class will be studying the following topics across the curriculum:

English	Whole School unit: Growing our Futures Together Rich text study and writing for different genres based on The Tear Thief – Descriptive setting, diary, poetry Argument and Debate Fantasy stories – Powerless Persuasive Letter
Maths	Place Value and the Number System Four Operations: Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division Fractions
Science	Living things and their habitats Terrific Trees Electricity
Computing	Computing systems and networks – communication Creating media – 3D modelling
History/ Geography	Anglo-Saxons and Scots (Lindisfarne) Global farming – Food Miles

D.T/ Art	Anglo-Saxon artefacts and seascapes Tear Thief – Multimedia collage Self-portraits Super seasonal foods Upcycling creations
P.E.	Swimming Ignite Sport
R.E.	Islam – what is the best way for a Muslim to show commitment to God? Christianity – Christmas
Music	Music Flood – Abingdon Schools Anglo-Saxon Music
MFL	Spanish
P.S.H.E.	Healthy Me

Children will receive homework and spellings to learn. We intend to set these in the next few weeks, once the children are settled into the new school year. We will be back in contact with you to give you more information on this.

Reading remains a high priority in Thames Class and although many children are now independent and fluent readers, we ask that they read for a minimum of 15- 20 minutes every day at home. They will have an individual homework diary for recording their reading and other activities. Library books are organised by level of difficulty to help children gain independence and choose a book that is right for them.

We always welcome your help and support with your children's learning and if you feel that there are any areas of this term's curriculum that you may be able to contribute to, please let us know. We particularly need support with hearing children read.

The start of a new academic year is always an exciting opportunity, and we ask that you continue to support your children towards greater independence with personal organisation and responsibility. As most of us know, some of life's greatest lessons and rewards result from overcoming our own personal challenges.

As always, I welcome your questions or feedback, so please do not hesitate to contact me through the school office. It is always best to communicate early and openly should there be any concerns, to ensure a positive, productive and supportive environment for your children.

Best wishes

Heather Sparks
Thames Class Teacher

