



September 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope that you have all had a lovely summer break and are looking forward to the new school year ahead. As I am new to the school, I still have lots to learn and I am excited to become a part of the school's fantastic community and getting to know all of your children.

Our topic this term will focus around the question 'What is Africa's big picture?' where we will look at the Kingdom of Benin, and geographical and locational features of Africa. There will soon be a Milestone document on the website which will outline our enquiry questions in further detail and also show the curriculum areas we are covering.

In Swift class this term, our usual PE sessions take place every Tuesday and Thursday. On these days, please ensure your child comes into school dressed in their PE kits, wearing trainers rather than daps in case of wet weather. Your child would also benefit from having an art shirt in school as they will be using a range of messy materials within art and DT. This could be any old shirt or top that you do not mind getting messy and can stay in school. Please remember to label your children's items clearly so any mislaid items can be returned. Children will need a named water bottle to keep in the classroom at all times. These will be sent home daily to be washed. Please remember to wash and return them, particularly when reflecting on the recent times. If you haven't already, please provide named wellies in a named carrier bag that can be kept in school for your child. If you have sent wellies in already, but no bag, please could you send in a named empty carrier bag. These bags will protect the wellies in wet weather whilst they are on the racks.

Your child should have brought home with them a homework diary and a reading book. They will be able to choose their reading book and will have free access to change it when completed. We would love you to continue to foster a love of reading, by hearing your child read **at least three times a week**, but every day if possible would be great! Please ensure that you record a small comment every time your child reads to you in their homework diary as these will be checked daily in the morning. It would also be very helpful if you could practise rapid recall of times tables with your child when you are able to. **We are currently in consultation about other homework, so for the time being, please just continue with reading and times tables. When a decision has been made, you will be updated. (NOW UPDATED IN HOMEWORK LETTER)**

We have adopted a new spelling approach, closely aligned to our English approach, The Write Stuff. Your child will no longer bring home spellings to learn as all spelling learning will happen in school. However, I will attach a list of the Year 5 and 6 statutory spelling list that you can look at with your child if you wish.

A few requests – if any of you have any old newspapers for artwork, or games and comics for wet play, please send them in.

Please check Dojo regularly where I will send reminders, notices and share our learning. I will also upload learning to our class page on the school website. We want to keep communication open, so please do get in contact if you have any concerns or questions. I know this may be difficult this year due to the changes in dropping off and picking up your children, so where possible please use Dojo. Alternatively, you can email or contact Mrs Hinde in the office to make a telephone appointment or to facilitate a time for you to come in and speak to me.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to an exciting year ahead!

Best wishes,  
Mrs Roberts

## Year 5 and 6 Statutory Spellings

100 words that children in England are expected to be able to spell by the end of Year 6 (age 11).

accommodate	correspond	identity	queue
accompany	criticise (critic + ise)	immediate(ly)	recognise
according	curiosity	individual	recommend
achieve	definite	interfere	relevant
aggressive	desperate	interrupt	restaurant
amateur	determined	language	rhyme
ancient	develop	leisure	rhythm
apparent	dictionary	lightning	sacrifice
appreciate	disastrous	marvellous	secretary
attached	embarrass	mischievous	shoulder
available	environment	muscle	signature
average	equip (-ped, -ment)	necessary	sincere(ly)
awkward	especially	neighbour	soldier
bargain	exaggerate	nuisance	stomach
bruise	excellent	occupy	sufficient
category	existence	occur	suggest
cemetery	explanation	opportunity	symbol
committee	familiar	parliament	system
communicate	foreign	persuade	temperature
community	forty	physical	thorough
competition	frequently	prejudice	twelfth
conscience	government	privilege	variety
conscious	guarantee	profession	vegetable
controversy	harass	programme	vehicle
convenience	hindrance	pronunciation	yacht