



St Catherine's School
Haslewood Avenue
Hoddesdon
Hertfordshire
EN11 8HT
Acting Headteacher:
Mrs Devonshire

Curriculum Information Newsletter – Year 5
Autumn Term – 2023

Dear Families,

Welcome back to school after the long summer break. We hope you are looking forward to the exciting learning opportunities that we have in store for the following year. The following staff will be responsible for teaching the year five students:

Mr Hunt – New River Class

Mrs Lines – Dobbs Weir Class

Mrs Hassel - New River Class/Dobbs Weir Class

Mrs Hopwood - New River Class/ Dobbs Weir Class

As you may already know, we follow a varied and detailed curriculum, and we attempt to encourage the children with a variety of hook sessions to bolster their interest.

Topic

We will take the children on a local trip to learn about our local area and our class names. We shall be visiting the local sites that our classes are named after and will make drawings of the things that take our interest. Additionally, we will be studying more about the history of The New River and Dobbs Weir. This enables children to gain a deeper understanding of our local geography and their place within it.

Later in the term, we will be focusing upon the Saxons and Vikings. We will have a visit from a living museum which enables the children to fully understand how the Saxons and Vikings lived and the tools and weapons that they used.

Maths

We are continuing to use our Maths No Problem scheme this year to teach and deepen mathematical understanding across the school.

Year 5 will begin the year recapping place value and moving on to the four operations. We will start by looking at numbers up to 1,000,000. In the coming weeks, the children will then use their knowledge and apply it to the four operations in context.

RE

This term, we are focussing on the religious beliefs and practises of Christians.

Computing

This term we will be looking at the importance of computing and big data. We will examine the growth of this phenomena and how it can affect our everyday lives. Additionally, we will also be looking more deeply at how we can stay safe when using computers and working online. We will also learn how to use Google based applications.



Let your light shine



Homework

Homework will consist of at least two components: spellings and times tables. This will be set on Google Classroom on a Friday afternoon and should be finished by the following Thursday.

Maths homework will be to use TT Rockstars to prepare for a weekly times tables challenge. We expect children to be proactive in learning all their times tables up to 12x until they know them fluently and in a random order. The class teacher will also advise children which X tables to focus on each week.

Spelling homework will be based around the weekly spellings. The spellings will be on Google classroom every Friday (as part of the weekly homework) and should be practiced at home. These spellings will be tested weekly on a Thursday.

Additionally, at St Catherine's, we expect and encourage children to read an appropriate level book at least 3 times a week, to an adult.

All the children will be completing an algorithm/assessment program that will help children to select an appropriate learning to read book. Children will also be able to select a reading for pleasure book.

PE

Children are expected to come to school in P.E. kits on their day for PE. Please contact the school office for any required kit replacements. Swimming will continue for the start of the Autumn Term

School trips and experiences

To plan the year, we have created a list of our anticipated trips and visits this year to enable you to pre-plan.

We aim to have at least one experience per half term to enrich the learning of the children whilst in year five.

We always endeavour to keep the cost to a minimum and at times even free. The following are the experiences we have planned for this year.

Term	Description	Approximate cost
Autumn term 1	Class name visit to New River and Dobbs Weir	No cost
Autumn term 1	Viking experience	£7.50
Spring 2	RE faith tour (multi places of worship)	£25
Spring 2	Planetarium visit	£TBA
Summer 2	Exploring our local environment (school grounds and pond area)	No cost

We will always try to keep the cost at a minimum and the prices above are approximate.

Further information will follow when we have agreed the details.

Many thanks for your continued support, and if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us either through the School Office or at the gate at the end of the school day.

Mr Hunt Mrs Lines Mrs Hassel Mrs Hopwood