



Team Eagle Newsletter

Autumn 2—2020

Year 5/6

Welcome back to school! We hope you had a restful half term and are ready to get stuck in again with lots of new learning! A big well done to everyone for your resilience when coming back to school; last half term was challenging in lots of different ways and you all faced it with a smile. Let's continue with our positive attitudes as we lead up to Christmas.

Our Christian value for this half term is respect. We will be thinking about what respect looks like and how we can earn each other's respect.

Miss Orrell and Miss Holland

Homework

Children should ensure that they are reading at least 4 times a week and practising their weekly spellings as part of their homework.

We will also be continuing to use Google Classroom throughout the half term. Five topic-based projects have been uploaded to Google Classroom already and children can choose a minimum of two to complete over the course of the half term.



Reading

Children in Team Eagles must read independently at home at least 4 times a week. They will be able to write this in their Reading Record and this should be signed by a parent or another adult at home.

Children should continue to bring in their reading books with them in their bags every day so that they can read with an adult and their reading level can be checked and altered as soon as possible if it is not suitable.

Reading books will only be changed **on a Friday** so that books that are returned to school can be quarantined for 72 hours over the weekend.

Children will not be permitted to take another reading book out of school if the old one has not been returned. This includes any books that were sent home in March when the school was closed.



If you have any queries or questions about this new system, please feel free to speak to Miss Orrell and Miss Holland.

Key Dates

From now on, all our calendar dates will be updated on the school website. This will be kept up to date and will provide consistency across the school. Please visit:

<https://www.darringtonschool.co.uk/calendar/?calid=4&pid=34&viewid=5>

The e4education News & Events app will allow parents to get the latest news stories and calendar events added to the school website straight to their iPhone, Android or Windows phone. For more information please see the Parents' section of our website

PE

PE will take place on a Friday in Team Eagles.

Children should come to school in their PE kit so that they do not have to get changed while they are in school. They do not need to bring their uniform with them; they can remain in their PE kit all day.

Please see the uniform policy for the correct PE kit that children should wear.



What are we learning this half-term?

English: Our English learning for this half term has begun with some Remembrance poetry. We have been analysing personification poems and then trying to apply the techniques to our own personification poems about the theme of Remembrance. Following this, our English learning will link into our Topic of 'Eastern Europe' and our class book—'Anya and the Dragon'. We will be learning about creatures from Slavic and Russian myths and folklore and creating non-chronological reports about them. We will be focussing on our use of language, recapping how to use complex sentences, as well as thinking about the flow and cohesion of our writing.

Spelling: We have begun to use a new spelling scheme for our weekly spellings. Children have 10 of their own spellings to practise and when those spellings have been spelled correctly, these will be highlighted in their spelling book and new spellings will be added to the list. Please speak to Miss Orrell or Miss Holland if you have any queries about this new scheme.

Maths: In Maths this half term, we will be learning about Multiplication and Division, followed by Geometry and Time. The children will be using a range of concrete, pictorial and abstract resources to strengthen their fluency, reasoning and problem solving. We will be practising times tables every lesson to ensure that we are fluent with them. Children should try to practise these at home as well.

PHSE: Our PHSE focus for this term will be Healthy Relationships. We will be learning about respecting others when they are in difficult situations and how we can help them; taking notice of our own feelings; practising our collaboration skills; and also thinking about stereotypes.

R.E : The title of this half term's RE is 'Was Jesus the Messiah?' In the lead up to Christmas, we will be looking at the life of Jesus and what people believed about him. We will be strengthening our debating skills and unpicking key stories from the Bible.

Science: Our topic in Science for this half term is 'Light'. We will begin by recapping on our previous knowledge of Light from Meerkats by looking at shadows and understanding how light travels. Children will be able explain how we see objects through their understanding of how light travels in straight lines. They will understand reflection and refraction, and will be able to apply their learning on refraction to understanding the visible spectrum and how rainbows are created.

PE: Physical education this term will be athletics based on a Friday morning which is taught by Miss Orrell. Children should come to school in their PE kits and they can remain in their kits all day.

Geography: Our topic this half term is Eastern Europe. We will be exploring the countries and capital cities in Eastern Europe, including Eastern Russia. Children will develop their understanding of climate and land use , and will be able to compare a city in Eastern Europe to Pontefract. We will also finish our topic with some learning about the Chernobyl disaster which I am sure they will find very interesting!

Computing: In computing we will be using some software called SketchUp to construct 2D and 3D shapes. We will be learning about the variety of tools available to use on SketchUp and understanding how this technology can be used by different professions.

Art (Mrs Wraith): Our Art this half term will also link to our Eastern Europe topic. We will be using the book 'Golem' by David Wisniewski as inspiration for some collage work. The pictures in the book were all created using pieces of ripped paper. Children will learn about specific collaging techniques in order to create their own pieces.

