



Uffington Church of England Primary School



Kestrels Class Newsletter – Autumn 1

Welcome

Welcome to the newly named Kestrels class! I look forward to having some new faces in my classroom and am excited to see you all after a well-rested summer holiday. We are all looking forward to an exciting year ahead of us!

If you have any questions throughout the year please do not hesitate to discuss them with me, Mrs Sawers or Miss Adamska.

Reading

In class the children will be reading these books, which will inspire them with their writing:

Journey to the river Sea – It is 1910 and Maia, tragically orphaned at thirteen, has been sent from England to start a new life with distant relatives in Manaus, hundreds of miles up the Amazon. She is accompanied by an eccentric and mysterious governess who has secret reasons of her own for making the journey. Both soon discover an exotic world bursting with new experiences in *Journey to the River Sea*, Eva Ibbotson's highly colourful, joyous adventure.

Darwin's Dragons- Syms Covington has landed the job of a lifetime - cabin boy and fiddler on Charles Darwin's Beagle - but when he is separated from the crew during a storm, his life takes a truly extraordinary turn.

Shipwrecked on a Galapagos island, he makes a discovery that could change the world - and make his fortune. But should he share his find, or will it lead to the extinction of a legendary species?

Recommended reads – Here are a list of recommended books for each year group (How many can the children tick off?):

Y5 - [2025-Checklist-50-Best-Books-Y5.pdf](#)

Y6 - [2025-Checklist-50-Best-Books-Y6.pdf](#)



Writing

This term we will be focusing on the books *Journey to the River Sea* and *Darwin's Dragons* which will inspire the children to write different texts and we will look develop their understandings of certain texts to acknowledge which features should be included in their writing.





Uffington Church of England Primary School

Maths



This term we will be focusing on place value (roman numerals, numbers to 10 million, powers of 10, rounding any integer and more), Multiplying and dividing (Looking at multiples, factors, prime, square and cube numbers and multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000) and the beginnings of the large topic of fractions.

If your child struggles or wishes to go over a lesson, covered lessons can be found through these links:
Yr 5 - <https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths/home-learning?year=year-5-new>

Yr 6 - <https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths/home-learning?year=year-6-new>

Science

The children this term will be exploring the life cycles of plants and animals and the life process of reproduction. Discussing the life cycle of plants, mammals, birds, amphibian and describe asexual reproduction in plants.



Computing

In computing this term the children will be learning how a flat-file database can be used to organise data in records. They will use tools within a database to order and answer questions about data, and create graphs and charts from their data to help solve problems. They will also use a real-life database to answer a question, and present their work to others.



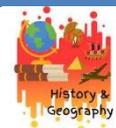
DT

This term in DT the children will be designing and creating their own waistcoat. We do have material already but if anyone has any spare pieces of material for the children to use that would be fantastic.



Geography

In Geography this term the children will be thinking about why the population on Earth changes. Understanding how birth and death rates change, recognising push and pull factors influencing migration, how climate change can impact the global pop.



Music

The focus this term in music will be learning about mixing and looping. How dance music is created focusing specifically loops and fragments that can create a composition.



PE

This term in PE the children will continue to build on their knowledge, understanding and skills in Netball and gymnastics.



PSHE

In PSHE this term the children will be understanding the importance of water safety, being responsible and understanding how choices can impact on peoples lives and looking into the feelings and emotions of worry.



RE

In RE the children will discussing the life journey in Hinduism and Islam and comparing this to Christianity.





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MFL

The children will continue to develop their understanding of French vocabulary, especially linked to introductions and greetings, developing their spoken and written work. Alongside that, the children will be introduced to 'Journeys' looking at specific related vocabulary and sentence stems to develop their confidence in their spoken and written work.

Enrichment

This term the children will be enjoying our annual harvest walk where the children drop off flowers and cards to elderly in the village.

This year we are also introducing "Welly Days" where the children will enjoy a day of learning outside



Homework



It is absolutely vital that children stay on top of their reading and we recommend a minimum of 3 times a week. This can be read aloud and/or read alone (Please sign your child's book for proof).

Every child has their own login for Tackling tables and it is important that the children practice these as much as possible at home. They will have the opportunity in school to move up levels and will be quicker in doing so if they practice at home. This will help massively in their maths throughout the year as multiplication and division is a huge aspect of primary maths.

Rewards

The children will receive 'House Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude.

They will also earn Gold Stars for being kind and courteous.



Class information

Class Teacher: Mr Roberts

Supported by: Mrs Sawers and Miss Adamska

Please remember to name your child's school jumper or cardigan.

We request that all children bring a named water bottle to school every day and when the weather is warmer a sun hat and sun cream.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.



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Dates for the diary!

Autumn 1

Tuesday 2nd September – Training Day

Wednesday 3rd September – Training Day

Thursday 4th September – Pupils First Day of School

Friday 5th September – Whole school worship in Church – 2.00-3.00pm

Friday 12th September – Swimming begins for Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 pupils

Friday 12th September – Mufti Day (donations for the September Social children's tombola)

Saturday 13th September – Bourne Grammar School 11+ Paper 1

Friday 19th September – PTA September Social – 5.30-7.00pm on the School Field

Saturday 20th September – Bourne Grammar School 11+ Paper 2

Thursday 2nd October – Individual School Photos (pre-school siblings from 3.00pm)

Friday 3rd October – Parents Drop in and Read (all year groups) – 8.45-9.15am

Friday 3rd October – School Harvest Thanksgiving service in Church – 2.00pm

Tuesday 21st October – KS1 & KS2 Parents Evening – 4.00-6.30pm

Wednesday 22nd October – EYFS, KS1 & KS2 Parents Evening – 4.00-6.30pm

Friday 24th October – Whole school worship in Church – 2.00-3.00pm

Friday 24th October – School closes to pupils for Half Term

