



Autumn Term Information 2018

Key Stage 2



Welcome back to a new school year. The children are looking smart and ready to learn. Those children who took part in the library challenge and who have kept up their reading have really benefitted by continuing to make progress over the summer. And a big thank you, for all of the wonderful photos of children doing things that make them feel proud.

Our classes for this year are:

Years 3/4	Pumas	Mrs Downing	Years 5/6	Owls	Mrs Hunter-Jones
Years 3/4	Lions	Mr Herring	Years 5/6	Hawks	Mr Duncan
Years 3/4	Tigers	Ms Ireland/Mrs Riggall	Years 5/6	Eagles	Mrs Pawley

Curriculum information

Years 3 and 4 are studying the **Swinging Sixties** in a topic that ranges from the moon landing to popular music. Literacy will be themed with topic. Cool baby! After half term, we will be launching a topic based around the Greatest Showman, focusing on diversity and inclusion.

Science focuses on sound, with children finding out about waves and vibrations, which links with music and topic.

Years 5 and 6 are finding out about **Inspirational India**. They will be comparing UK and Indian villages and towns, finding out about Indian culture, dance, beliefs and daily life, focusing on influential historical figures like Gandhi and studying the climate and geography of this vibrant land of contrasts. Namaste!

Linking literacy with topic and RE, we are currently reading Indian traditional tales, creating scripts and writing our own stories in the same style. The children will also continue to practice some challenging grammar skills in daily lessons as well as within our writing across the curriculum. We're starting with a drive towards neat, fluent joined handwriting from the majority of children.

The writing theme is picked up in I.T, where children's typing skills are being practised to improve accuracy and speed up their access to and recording of information.

Our Science is about our amazing bodies, finding about how to keep ourselves healthy and fit through the many changes and demands of everyday life.

We are very lucky to be able to work again with the Hunts Sport Partnership, and children will be learning to play Tag Rugby, with their class teachers and a Hunts Partnership Coach.

Maths – all of the children begin the year deepening their understanding of place value and working with challenging numbers, before working on calculation strategies and developing their reasoning skills.

Home learning

Maths and Literacy/Topic tasks are usually set on Thursdays and are due in by the following Tuesday for Years 5/6 and set on Wednesday and are due in by the following Monday for Years 3/4. Children are expected to read daily at home, both independently and by sharing their books with an adult (a minimum of three times a week). Please sign their diaries whenever you read with them and feel free to comment on particular strengths and areas for development. Individual spellings must be learned and will be peer and adult checked weekly. Children can practise maths skills on Mathletics at home, their log-ins are in the front of their reading journals.

Water/Snacks

We continue to support the availability of water during the day. We ask that only named, clear plastic bottles with 'sport valve' tops are used for this purpose. Snacks for playtimes should be healthy, eg fruit, cereal bars and carrot sticks and not crisps, chocolate or sweets. Snacks are not provided by school for KS2 children.

Important dates

Grafham Yr 4 - Spring Term. More information to follow.

Caythorpe Yr 6 – 1st to 4th October.

Pumas class assembly – 5th October

Eagles class assembly - 9th November

School uniform and PE kit.

The children are looking smart in their uniforms but already we have found sweatshirts and water bottles without names that we are struggling to return.

For PE and Games lessons, children need a plain white t-shirt, plain dark shorts and trainers. As the weather gets colder they can also have long joggers and sweatshirts (no hoods!) Every item should be named – even the bag they are in! – an additional plastic carrier bag to bring home muddy or damp trainers would be useful. Earrings must be removed for PE and a small box to keep them safe in is a good idea.

Finally

We thank you for your continued support. Please keep us up to date with any developments that may affect the learning and happiness of your child at school. Your first point of contact should be the School Office who will then liaise with the class teacher.

Reading, spellings and times tables are key skills which underpin learning across the curriculum and we really appreciate the constant support that so many of you give children at home. It makes a difference. If anyone could spare a couple of hours a week to support reading and spelling in school we would be very pleased to see you. Again, extra hands in these areas can boost learning for so many. Please see your child's teacher or pop into the School Office for further information.

KS2 Team