

KINGFISHERS' CLASS GUIDE



2022-2023



MEET THE TEAM

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CLASS TEACHER

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IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Nail varnish **must** be removed for school.
- **No** jewellery (apart from ear studs) are to be worn at school and these must be removed by the child for them to take part in PE.
 - Children **must** have a water bottle in school every day.
- Please ensure that all of the children's items of clothing are clearly **named**.
 - Please remember that we are a '**nut free**' school.
- Children in KS1 have snacks provided for them by the government, however if you would prefer to send a snack in yourself, or your child requests it, please be mindful that we encourage food '*not* from a packet'; such as fruit, vegetables etc. as part of our Healthy School Ethos.



ENGLISH

READING

The expectation with regards to reading at home is that it is done at least four times a week, even if it is just a page, reading a menu when you are out for dinner, reading the information on cereal packets or a book, it is important to all other areas of development to have time to read and discuss books with children.

An adult will check the reading records regularly, so if you have read with your child or if your child has read on their own please note this in the reading record so that we can monitor how they are progressing with their reading at home. The reading record may also be used for communication with us, please note any comments or questions you may have.

If your child has read consistently throughout the week (a minimum of four days), they will be awarded with a bronze award for one term, a silver award for two terms and a gold award for all three terms.

At the end of the week, all children will take part in our weekly Book Club session on a Friday afternoon, where they are free to explore, share and read a genre of books of their choice with their peers and adults in the classroom.

Throughout the day, adults in the classroom will be listening to your child read. We also have a daily reading session timetabled which could be in the form of guided or quiet reading.

In Kingfishers we will continue learning and exploring phonics through **ELS**, using the same learning approach and structure that was used in Robins last year, until we have come to the end of the ELS programme. While we are still developing all the skills we need for reading, we'll keep our decodable reading books for one week. This is the advised structure for using the decodable ELS books to become a Reading Star...

Day 1 (or longer depending) - decode the words in the book

Day 2 - re-read the book more fluently

Day 3 - re-read the book, using appropriate expression this time.

Day 4 - re-read the book working on comprehension; questioning and discussing events, characters, words used and if there are different words that have the same meaning.

Some weeks Kingfishers will also read a decodable book in class as part of their ELS lessons. This book will be set on Oxford Owl and it is likely that they will read this very fluently to you the first time you hear it, having practised it several times in class. This is

ideal, as the purpose of ELS is to build confidence, fluency & a love for reading. You can access Oxford Owl using your child's log in.

The children are encouraged to independently choose their own reading books at school so they may reselect books that they have already read by choice. It is also a Key Stage 1 objective for the children to re-read books to develop their fluency.

SOUNDS & WORDS

When we have reached the end of the ELS programme, we will continue to have phonics interventions for selected children.



It is important that the children know the year 2 high frequency words. In order to promote learning, we send home 5 high frequency words every week for them to practise, as well as going over them in class. The activity is purely verbal - no writing is necessary. The children should practise until they are able to read the words quickly and confidently. They need to understand the meaning of the word, so they can verbally define it and use it in a sentence.

This activity shouldn't take more than 10 minutes of your time, and hopefully this will become quicker over time as they regularly practise the words.

It is important that these spelling books come into school every Monday so we can put the new list in.

These skills will support your child with their reading and writing. Promotion of this at home, alongside reading and spellings is very important and highly recommended.

SPELLINGS

YEAR 2 CHILDREN:

Spelling homework will be linked either to Phonics lessons that have occurred during that week, words with spelling patterns, such as plurals or suffixes or ELS 'harder to read and spell' words that we have been learning.

The spellings will be given on Monday and must be returned by the following Monday. Each child will need to complete the spelling worksheet (Look, Cover, Write check) sent home but are also welcome to



engage in Spelling Shed, which has games related to the same spelling rule, linked to that week.

Once we have completed the ELS programme, there will be 2 discrete spelling sessions a week.

MATHS

It is important that all children learn their number bonds to 10, 20 and 100. Once the children are fluent in these skills they can begin to learn the 2, 5 & 10 times tables.

TIMES TABLES

We will be continuing to utilise TT Rockstars this year as we have seen a marked improvement in the children's times tables knowledge and fluency which has had a very positive impact in maths lessons. We strongly encourage times table practise at home which can be done in a fun, engaging way through the use of TT Rockstars. All children will be given a login that will be stuck in the front of their reading record.

The National Curriculum states the following times tables end of year expectations:

Year 1

- Start to know the multiples of 2, 5 and 10.

Year 2

- Know and recall multiplication facts for 2, 5 and 10 times tables and the related division facts.

Year 3

- Know and recall multiplication facts for 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables and the corresponding division facts.

Year 4

- Know and recall multiplication facts up to 12 x 12 and corresponding division facts.

Year 5

- Recall quickly multiplication facts up to 12 x 12 and use them to multiply pairs of multiples of 10 and 100.

Year 6

- Use knowledge of multiplication facts to derive quickly squares of numbers to 12 x 12 and the corresponding squares of multiples of 10.

With these objectives in mind and with the introduction of the new Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) in year 4, we would like you to support us at home by accessing Numbots

with your child's individual log in. Here they can practise as well as join in live festivals and compete against others. The class that have collaboratively used TT rockstars the most in the previous week, will be awarded the TT rockstar trophy in sharing assembly.

MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK

The purpose of the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will help schools to identify pupils who have not yet mastered their times tables, so that additional support can be provided.'

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE takes place on a **Wednesday**, however, children are expected to have their PE kit in school at all times as PE days may change due to circumstance.

INDOOR PE KIT

School PE polo shirt
School PE shorts/skorts
Bare feet



OUTDOOR PE KIT

School PE polo shirt
School PE sports jumper
School PE shorts/skorts
Jogging bottoms (if required)
Trainers



Children are also required to wear appropriate sports wear for any sports club that they attend either before school, at lunch or after school.



In Kingfishers class, the children will experience our forest school area every Thursday with Miss Honeybee and Mrs Radford to explore and to learn about Earth Science. For this reason, we ask that a pair of **wellington boots are kept in school** and that suitable coats and **waterproof** clothing are brought in in all weathers. The Children **must** wear their own clothes for Forest School and these must be full length trousers and long sleeve tops.

In the summer, children still need to ensure that they wear full length trousers/leggings and a long sleeve top as well as bringing in wellies or appropriate footwear for the day. It is also sensible to bring waterproof clothing in on the day for the typical English summer days.



UNHOMework



'Unhomework' is an alternative approach to the setting of homework which was introduced a couple of years ago and has been developing within school ever since. The aim of 'unhomework' is that it enables children to be creative, imaginative, independent and make their own decisions about what they want to work on at home which fits nicely in with our Montessori ethos that runs through the school.

By year 5 and 6, we hope to have prepared the children well enough to enable them to make their own decisions about what needs to be worked on, why it needs to be worked on and how they are going to work on it.

'Unhomework' suggestions:

- *Posters, poems, plays, dances, stories, baking, presentations, construction projects, etc.*

'Unhomework' Progression	
Wrens	In reception 'Unhomework' is known as Show and Tell. Children will be given a timetable at the beginning of the half term with some weekly themes to guide their Show and Tell for that week, Some will be simple themes that involve them bringing their favourite book or teddy to school and some will involve using a bit more imagination and creativity. It is important that your child brings their Show and Tell in every Friday to share with the class. <i>Show and Tell Theme Examples: 5 Things About Me, My Family, My Favourite Animal, If I was a Superhero I Would be..., When I Grow up...</i>
Robins	At the start of each half term children in Robins will be offered a small selection of project-based ideas, from which they choose one to complete. The children have complete freedom and ownership as to how they complete and present their 'unhomework', having as little or as much adult help as needed. The 'unhomeworks' will then be shared with the class, in an exhibition, within the last two weeks of each half term.
Kingfishers	Children will select an activity within the class every two weeks. It is up to the children how they present their unhomework. Unhomework will be shared every Friday so they can choose to complete it within the two weeks. The challenge will be a sticker in their reading record books.
Woodpeckers	Children will have the choice of several different 'unhomework' titles which they will work their way through during the year. They will have two weeks to complete their 'unhomework' in any way they choose and

	share with the class at the end of the two weeks. This work is expected to reflect the time frame given. If the tasks are not completed, children will be expected to attend the homework club.
Kestrels	Children will be given a title based on one of our current areas of learning and will have two weeks to complete a piece of unhomework in any way they wish- on the computer, as a handwritten piece, a poster, model, poem, role play. This will be shared with the class fortnightly on a Friday. This work is expected to reflect the time frame given. If the tasks are not completed, children will be expected to attend the homework club.
Ospreys	Each child is required to complete a minimum of two pieces of 'unhomework' every half term and any 'unhomework' brought in will be shared during the week that it is due in. I will always set a week beginning date so that we can stagger sharing. If the tasks are not completed, children will be expected to attend homework club.
Owls	Children are required to complete at least two 'unhomework' tasks every half-term satisfying the criteria and headings set out at the start of the year by the children themselves. Their 'unhomework' will then be shared with the class and they will then self-assess and peer-assess their work within their 'unhomework' booklet. If the tasks are not completed in the time set, they will be carried over into the next half term. All 'unhomeworks' will be shared on a Monday or Friday afternoon.



CLASS DOJO

First and foremost, Class Dojo is a behaviour reward system whereby children are rewarded with a dojo to reinforce positive behaviour and our school values that have an impact on themselves, their class and the community. Children work throughout the year to work collaboratively to earn class Dojos. At the end of the half term, if the class has reached their agreed target of points they can then enjoy their class reward.

Class Dojo can also be used to share children's work. Each class has their own page on top of the whole school page where notices, photos, important messages and general information can be uploaded. Children also have their own pages whereby they can select pieces of work they are particularly proud of to be uploaded and shared with their parents.

Please **do not** use the messaging function on the Class Dojo platform. The best way to get in contact with your child's teacher is to email them directly.

The Class Dojo application can be downloaded from the Apple Store whilst also being available on android devices through the Play Store.

STEPS CHALLENGE

Children will be given a STEPS challenge booklet at the start of the year (*replacements can be downloaded and printed from our website*) where they will be tasked with completing a range of challenges to earn their STEPS badge at the end of the year. We would really appreciate your support in encouraging your child to undertake as many of the challenges as possible.

