



# Survival Guide for Year 5

## Meet the Team...



Don't forget that our Parent Handbook can be found on the school website.



Miss Walker



Miss Smith



Mrs Sharrad

Our teaching team will be around on the playground at the end of every day. However it may be easier to catch up with us via email using the year group email contact [year5parent@godinton.kent.sch.uk](mailto:year5parent@godinton.kent.sch.uk).

You can also contact us via the school office on 01233 621616

We are always here to help and look forward to working in partnership with you this year.

Mrs McGoldrick will cover Cuckoo class when and Mrs Kelleher will cover Magpie class.

## Welcome to Year 5!

We are all excited for this new school year. As your child moves up to year 5 we will expect them to have a good level of organisation – remembering their PE day and when we have times table and spelling tests. When the children are responsible for their behaviour, it ensures positive learning attitudes and respect for all members of staff and their peers. Most of all, children will be expected to try their best and to enjoy the year!

We hope that your child has a wonderful year with us and we very much look forward to working with you.

Task	Cuckoo Class	Magpie Class
Indoor PE	Wednesday	Tuesday
Times table test	Monday	
Spelling test	Tuesday	Monday
Outdoor PE	Monday	
Mathletics homework	Friday	

# Our Exciting Year 4 Curriculum...

If you travelled back in time to the Victorian era, what would Britain and Ashford be like?

What Victorian inventions do we still use today?

Do you know what life was like for Victorian children?

These questions and many more will be answered as your child makes their way through this year's Learning Adventures!

Our school curriculum is taught through our 'Learning Adventure' approach which creates cross curricular links over the course of 2 terms, making learning more meaningful for the children. Each topic will have a 'Sensational Start' and an 'Explosive Ending' to enthuse and excite the children and to celebrate their achievements.

STAR week – 'Showing Tolerance and Respect' – is built into every term and centres around our school values. Whilst we embed these values into everyday school life, we also want to highlight specific topics which are covered during each of these focus weeks. During STAR week, the children will complete their RE and PSHE/ Relationship Education work for the term and English work will relate directly to the term's STAR theme.

Details of the curriculum that your child will be studying during the academic year can be found on the school website. To locate this information simply go to the 'Curriculum' section and then select the relevant area.

## Maths...

Maths lessons will be taught in class groups, using the Mastery approach that is now embedded across the school. Maths mastery places greater emphasis on broadening the children's understanding and experiences of mathematics and provides them with a deeper knowledge of concepts which improves their ability to make mathematical links and connections and develops their reasoning and problem solving skills. We will work on maths fluency, written calculations methods and the recall of multiplication and division facts. Details of the year group curriculum for maths can be found on the school website.

**Mathletics homework will be set every Friday to consolidate and revise what has been covered in lessons that week. We expect this work to be completed by the following Friday. Please let us know if your child has difficulty completing or accessing the task.**

## English...

English lessons are taught as a whole class. We believe it is important to ensure that literacy skills are firmly embedded into other subjects such as science, history and geography and are therefore mostly recorded in our Learning Adventure books. Work will be suitably pitched for the varying ability groups within the class, with challenge and support provided for all.

The children should aim to produce their best writing at all times, across all areas of the curriculum.

# Our Homework Trails...

At the start of each term, the year group will be set a 'Homework Trail' which will last for the duration of each term. This trail includes weekly 'Base Camp' tasks, a menu of 'Trail' tasks which are all linked to the Learning Adventure topic, and an 'Extra Mile' Challenge. All Homework Trails will also be available to view on the school website so don't worry if you forget what to do. The choice of homework tasks all relate to work being taught in class and provide further practice and reinforcement of our Learning Adventure themes. Children are strongly encouraged to complete the tasks set but homework is not compulsory.

Regular reading, spelling and the retention of number facts and multiplication / division facts are essential in the development of English and Maths skills as they underpin many concepts. These tasks will form the 'Base Camp' activities which children are expected to complete on a weekly basis. 'Trail' tasks are a set of 9 tasks that the children can choose from, ensuring that the centre task has been completed—they cover a broad range of subjects and interests. The minimum expectation is that 3 tasks will be completed over a term in the children's homework books.

'Extra Mile' task – Children who 'go the extra mile' and complete 6 squares will receive an 'Extra Mile Sticker'. Any children who complete 3 'Extra Mile challenges' during the academic year, will take part in an end of term treat.



At the start of each term, each class will hold a 'Trail End Showcase' where children can share the homework they have completed over the previous term and celebrate their hard work. Children only need to bring their homework books back into school on Trail End day.

## Base Camp Tasks...



### Mathletics

Maths homework will continue to be set as an online activity each week through Mathletics. We will remind the children of their login details before setting any homework.

In addition to the homework set, it may be beneficial for your child to explore the interactive games that Mathletics offer, including practising their times tables. Please contact your child's class teacher if there are any issues with accessing Mathletics at home.

Mathletics homework will be set on a **Friday** and be **due in the following Friday**.

### Keep Practising Those Times Tables

The ability to recall number facts at speed contributes greatly to many areas of mathematics. With speedy recall, children are able to make greater links between facts e.g., If you know  $4 \times 6 = 24$ , you can quickly calculate  $40 \times 6 = 240$  and  $40 \times 60 = 2400$  or if  $6+4 = 10$  then  $60+40 = 100$ . Knowledge of these facts also enables children to make links to fractions, decimals and percentages.

Children are expected to learn their times tables at home. Children will be given a specific table / set of multiplication or division facts to practise at home each week. **These will be tested usually on a Monday.**

## Spellings

Spelling and phonics is an important part of the curriculum at Godinton. In Year 5, all children will be focusing on spelling patterns. Spelling work is currently taught as a whole class for 2 x 30 minute sessions per week. The children will all be working on the coloured spelling scheme and are expected to apply their spellings into their everyday writing.

The coloured scheme can be found on the school website and children should practice these regularly at home. Cuckoos will usually be tested on Tuesdays; Magpies will usually be tested on Mondays.

## Read, Read, Read ...

We want all our children to read as often as possible and to develop a life-long love of reading. Children who regularly read a wide range of texts at home, tend to demonstrate greater progress in reading, writing and spelling at school. So everything you do at home really can make a difference. Children will bring home reading books to read at home. Regular reading sessions will take place during the school week. This will be in the form of whole class reading sessions with activities or questions differentiated to match the children's ability. Throughout the year, children will also be heard read as part of a small group, on a 1-1 basis.

Upper School children do not have a reading record; however, we still strongly encourage the children to read to an adult at home. Older children can still benefit hugely from reading and sharing a book with an adult. Having read a chapter of a book together, discussions relating to events, the behaviour or thoughts and feelings of a character can be shared. It is also useful to discuss the meaning of new vocabulary discovered and why the author has chosen to use it.

## Content is important but so is presentation...

We expect all the children to take care with the presentation of their work and with their handwriting, both in their school books and in their homework books.

Coming into Year 5, we expect children to use joined, neat handwriting and would expect most to have earned their pen licenses by the end of the year. Children are expected to use a handwriting pen (or pencil) for written work and a sharpened pencil for maths.

## Equipment and Resources...

All children are encouraged to be respectful of school resources. The children do not need to bring lots of items into school each day—our cloakrooms are only small so think carefully about the type of bag they bring in. Every day, the children should bring in their water bottle and a snack (fruit or vegetables) for morning break. Please ensure that items of clothing are clearly labelled. We endeavour for the children to have a suitable amount of time outside, therefore, it would benefit your child to always have a waterproof coat in school as to avoid missing any of these opportunities due to rain. Your child will be provided with all of the stationery that they will require for everyday lessons. If your child would like to bring in their own equipment from home, we would ask that they do so in a small pencil case that will be able to be fit in their trays when not in use.

# Other useful things to know...

## P.E and Games...

Both classes will have Outdoor PE on Monday. Magpies will have Indoor PE on Tuesday; Cuckoos will have Indoor PE on Wednesday. In the terms where we have Forest School, this will replace Outdoor PE.

Your child will need to bring a PE kit into school, which will stay in their PE bag on their peg. They will change into their kit for PE lessons in school, boys and girls will be separated for changing.

Although we have set PE days, it would be ideal for their kit to be in school from Monday to Friday, as this provides us with the flexibility to change our timetable if weather or other events impact on our usual days.

We will be continuing with our Fitness in Fifteen' initiative to help promote physical well-being. At different points in the week, classes will walk at a brisk pace around the field, aiming to further the distance reached within 15 minutes.

## Out and About...

During this year, we are hoping that we will be able to provide the following trips for the children's enjoyment and educational value.

Term 4 (TBC) – Trip to Science Museum (London) – approx. £10

29th–31st March – Kingswood Residential Trip (information already provided)

Term 6 – children to complete some fieldwork when we are looking at rivers at Horton Kirby – approx. £20

## Forest School

This year all year groups will have a block of Forest School sessions in our woodland. The Year 5 block will take place in term 1 (Magpies) and 2 (Cuckoos). Further details will be provided ahead of your child's sessions.

## Celebrating Achievements...

Celebration Assembly is on a Thursday. It will remain a time when selected children's achievements are awarded with special certificates. A child from each class, who has upheld our school values particularly well, is selected to receive the STAR Award and will be invited to a special tea party with Miss Talbot.

We will be encouraging your child to earn as many house points as they can this year. Perhaps they will be one of our gold house point badge winners by the end of the year?

Don't forget that the children can bring in something from home to hang on their proud peg too. This may be a copy of a certificate or medal, or a photo of a special accomplishment.

## Healthy Snacks, Lunches and Water...

Children should bring in a piece of fruit or vegetables for a mid morning snack – no other snacks are permitted. Please remember that no nut based products are allowed in school this includes things like peanut butter.

Children are allowed water to drink in their classrooms. This should be provided in a clear bottle, no larger than 500ml which has their name on. All water bottles must have a sports cap to help reduce spillages.

Children are encouraged to access their water bottles throughout the day. Water bottles must not contain juice or squash – it's water only.