



Welcome to Class 5

Dear Parents and Carers.

First of all, we would like to welcome you back to Class 5. We are really looking forward to teaching your children and it will be good for us to see a lot of familiar faces. At this point we thought it might help to give you some general information:

- The class teaching team will consist of several people. Mr Bond will teach the class Monday to Wednesday alongside Mrs Thomas who will support every morning. Mrs Haslam will teach the class on a Thursday and Friday alongside Mrs Thomas on a Thursday morning and Mrs Brain who will support on a Friday morning. On Wednesday afternoons from the 18th September all children in key stage 2 will be taught some subjects by different teachers. Mr Bond will teach computing, Miss Hayton will teach DT, Miss Shepherd will teach PSHE and Mrs Sayles will teach French. This will utilise skills, expertise and ensure high quality teaching for all.
- Each morning, at 8:50am the bell will ring. We ask that the children line up in their class space on the MUGA (in front of the number 5) ready for us to collect them. We would kindly remind parents to stay on the playground until all children have been taken into school on a morning. From here your child will come into school by themselves where they will organise their own belongings. This will be a morning job that will get your child's learning off to a quiet, focussed start. As such, we would ask that any parents who need to discuss anything, other than general start of the day matters, make an appointment to see one of us after school. At the end of the school day the children will be dismissed from outside the hall. Please ensure permissions are up to date if you would like your child to walk home on their own.
- PE will be on a Tuesday and Thursday, starting on the 9th September, with our Sports Coach Miss Lockwood. Please ensure your child has a full PE kit for these days and earrings are removed at home. We would ask that children have suitable indoor and outdoor kit on these days.
- Reading will continue to be a focus area this year in order to develop the children's own particular skills and abilities. Each day, literacy lessons will ensure opportunities for shared reading and the learning of the new skills. Every child will be taught reading skills appropriate to their level in guided reading sessions each week. Sometimes these will be in focussed groups and sometimes it will be as a whole-class session. Both of these approaches allow us to teach specific skills and monitor progress so that all children will become highly proficient readers who read with enjoyment and skill. Independent reading will then allow them to practice and consolidate these skills with you at home.
- Homework takes a variety of forms in Class 5. Spellings will be given on a Monday with a test on the following Monday. These spellings will be matched to your child's abilities. Spelling is a focus for this year as the writing curriculum focuses heavily on being able to spell correctly. The spellings come from a variety of places – mainly year group spelling lists and common exception words appropriate to upper key stage 2. When your child practices and generates spellings at home please make sure they write them as this is the purpose of learning them. Finally, a homework grid for the term will be available on our class page of the school website. This will incorporate homework tasks from a number of subjects, where the children can choose what task they would like to do when. The homework sheet will explain more about tasks and hand in dates. These tasks will allow them to consolidate their knowledge and share their learning with you.

- In Class 5 we will use the school behaviour and reward system. The behaviour is mostly managed through golden time where each child starts the week with 30 minutes' golden time, which we have last session on a Monday, and loses minutes for inappropriate behaviour. This means the children who always behave well get the greatest rewards. During golden time children can bring something from home to play with their friends (no electronics please). Please could you ensure that this item is able to fit in your child's book bag and is no larger. The first golden time session will start on Monday 9th September. Due to the ongoing success of Class Dojo, we will be using it again this year. This is our school house points system that can be viewed by staff, parents and children. Please ensure you're signed up if you're not already. The messaging element will be disabled from this year.
- Children's needs change as they advance through school, so we will always welcome any information you feel we should have about your child. Please also let us know if you have any comments or concerns about them. We are always ready to listen. Although the move to a new year group is exciting for your children, it also a big change and my primary concern is for the happiness of your child, allowing them to succeed and achieve highly, especially with the pressure of preparing for SATs. Our new parent support officer, Mrs Dewhurst, will now be the first point of contact in relation to any issues your child might be facing. Please e-mail kdewhurst@hswp.co.uk in the first instance as we can then work together to remedy any problems. If your query is regarding any matters for the school office, please e-mail enquiries@hswp.co.uk. As the year progresses we hope that we will have the opportunity to work closely with all of you to ensure a successful and happy last year for your child at Hoylandswaine Primary School.
- Do you have any spare time that you can offer to school? Volunteers play a very important role in supporting the work we do in school. Many people support individual reading, art work or design and technology and many other subjects. Without support of reading from volunteers, children will not be able to read their individual books to an adult at school on a weekly basis due to the pressures of the timetable. If you feel you may have some regular time to spare for this important job we would love to hear from you. Grandparents are also very welcome. You will earn our great appreciation and make a real difference to the children.

Regards,

Mr Bond and Mrs Haslam
Class Teachers