



# Puddlebridge Class Information 2021-2022



[www.astonmarys.herts.sch.uk/puddlebridge](http://www.astonmarys.herts.sch.uk/puddlebridge)

I hope that you and your family have had an enjoyable summer break and that your child is looking forward to returning to school for the new school year. With COVID restrictions easing across the country, we are all looking forward to this school year feeling a bit more normal.

Miss Heritage and I are extremely excited to be a part of the very first Puddlebridge class at Aston St Mary's. With Year 5 being split across Danes and Puddlebridge, we are keen to ensure that they still feel like one year group. As a result, Mrs Branagan and myself will continue to work closely together to ensure their Year 5 experience remains as it usually would. Being some of the oldest children in the school means they will take on many responsibilities around the school, including being lunchtime monitors.

This letter provides information about the term/year ahead and, unfortunately, replaces the usual 'Meet the Teacher' meetings which are usually held at the beginning of the school year. I would however love to meet you (either to introduce yourselves or just to catch-up), so please do come to speak to me outside the classroom door sometime at the end of a school day.

Miss Pear

## Staffing

**Miss Pear** – Class Teacher

**Miss Heritage** – supports in class (M, W, Th, F)

**Mrs Crowley** – teaches Music on Tuesday afternoons

**Mr Nash** – teaches PE on Tuesday and Friday afternoons

**Mrs Dean** – teaches Computing on Friday afternoons



## Arrival and Pick-up

Puddlebridge class will continue to enter and exit the building through the hall door. In previous years, we have allowed Year 5 and 6 pupils to leave the school site independently. If you wish for your child to make their own way home, please confirm this in writing.

## Seesaw Login Home Learning Codes

Your child's new login details for Seesaw are attached to this letter. Please **keep this safe** as your child will need to access Seesaw for their weekly English and Maths homework (Year 5 only).



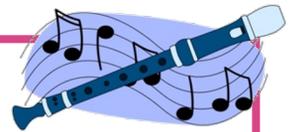
# Equipment



## PE Kit

PE lessons will take place on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays**. Please ensure appropriate kits are in school and items clearly labelled (this should include both shorts and long trousers). Trainers will be needed **EVERY DAY** for the 'Daily Mile'.

## Recorders

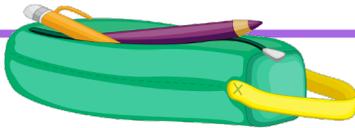


All children will now need to have their own recorder in school every Tuesday. These are available to purchase from the school office.

## Water Bottles



It is essential that all children bring a **named** water bottle into school each day and take it home to be washed daily. They will keep these next to their table for use throughout the day.



## Pencil Cases

We ask that all Year Five pupils have a small pencil case which will fit easily into your tray. Year Fours may also bring in a pencil case if they wish (although this is not essential). This should contain the following items: 2 pencils, a rubber, a sharpener and a few coloured pencils. You may also wish to have a ruler, some scissors, a highlighter pen and a glue stick. It is important that children look after their equipment carefully.

## Homework – All Pupils

**Spellings** should be practised daily in the spelling journal. Regular lessons will take place in school; children should practise words from these sessions and/or any personal spellings.

**Times tables** fluency should be secured by the end of Year 4. If your child is not yet confident with facts up to 12 x 12 then please spend a few minutes each day on **Times Tables Rock Stars**; it really does make a difference.

**Reading** should also take place every evening, with regular recording of this in reading records (to be signed by an adult).

### **Year 4 Only**

Year 4 children are also required to complete one Science and/or Topic **homework project** each half term (see separate sheets for details).

### **Year 5 Only**

**Maths and English** homework will be set on every Monday and should be submitted by Friday morning each week (commencing w/b 20<sup>th</sup> September). This will usually be set via Seesaw.

Year 5 children are also required to complete one **homework project** each half term (see separate sheet for details). These will link to our topic and/or science.

Homework is designed to be part of our home/school agreement, where children and parents work together to reinforce concepts learnt in class. In the final years of primary school, homework is also important preparation for the expectations of secondary school. Should your child experience any difficulties with their homework, please remind them that we are always happy to help them in school before the submission deadline.

## We're Wild about Reading!

It is very important for all children to maintain regular reading throughout the year. In school regular guided reading sessions will take place and the children will also have opportunities to read independently. It is important that your child has his/her **reading book in school each day** as well as taking it home to **read every evening**. Please support your child by encouraging them to read independently as well as reading with them regularly and discussing their reading. Reading record books should be signed every day if possible. Children should be reading as widely as possible choosing books from a range of different genres and authors.

Below are some suggested titles for Years 4 and 5, lots of which are all available in school. All children should aim to read at least one book from the booklist below, in addition to any other books they choose to read, this term.

Having regular access to a newspaper provides children with valuable reading practice as well as widening their knowledge of current affairs. **First News** is a newspaper written especially for children which they may enjoy reading.

### Year 4 and 5 Reading List

**A Boy Called Hope** by Lara Williamson  
**A Series of Unfortunate Events** by Lemony Snicket  
**Alice's Adventures in Wonderland** by Lewis Carroll  
**Beetle Boy** by M.G. Leonard  
**The Borrowers** by Mary Norton  
**The Boy at the Back of the Class** by Onjali Q. Rauf  
**The Brilliant World of Tom Gates** by Liz Pichon  
**Bridge to Terabithia** by Katherine Paterson  
**The Demon Headmaster** by Gillian Cross  
**Dragons at Crumbling Castle: And Other Stories** by Terry Pratchett  
**Emil and the Detectives** by Erich Kastner  
**The Explorer** by Katherine Rundell  
**Fish Boy** by Chloe Daykin  
**Five Children and It** by E. Nesbit  
**The Girl Who Stole an Elephant** by Nizrana Farook  
**Goblins** by Philip Reeve  
**How to Train Your Dragon** by Cressida Cowell  
**Just William** by Richmal Crompton  
**Kid Normal** by Greg James and Chris Smith  
**Lob** by Linda Newbery  
**The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane** by Kate DiCamillo  
**My Brother is a Superhero** by David Solomons  
**Mythologica** by Dr Stephen P. Kershaw  
**One Dog and His Boy** by Eva Ibbotson  
**The Phantom Tollbooth** by Norton Juster  
**Rooftoppers** by Katherine Rundell  
**The Secret Garden** by Frances Hodgson Burnett  
**The Silver Sword** by Ian Serraillier  
**Stig of the Dump** by Clive King  
**Street Child** by Berlie Doherty  
**There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom** by Louis Sachar  
**Varjak Paw** by SF Said  
**When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit** by Judith Kerr  
**The Wind in the Willows** by Kenneth Grahame



# OUR CURRICULUM

Lots of our work this term will be based around our topic, '**Brave and Beautiful Britain**'. In our topic lessons we will be learning all about WWII, focusing on a number of aspects of the Home Front. We will be visiting Duxford Imperial War Museum in October to support our learning (details to follow separately). After half term, the topic will have more of a geographical focus as we learn all about The British Isles and develop our geographical skills.



**English:** Texts linked to our WWII theme, Letter Writing, Classic Fiction (Charles Dickens), Persuasive Writing, and Poetry. We will be reading 'Letters from the Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll as our class text.

**Maths:** We will continue to follow the National Curriculum.

**Science:** Year 4 will be learning all about 'States of Matter' and 'Electricity' while Year 5 will be learning about 'Electricity' and 'Light'.

**RE:** We will be learning about Islam, thinking about the question: 'What is the best way for a Muslim to show commitment to God?' After half term, we will be thinking about the question: 'How significant is it that Mary was Jesus' mother?'

**Design Technology:** Anderson Shelters, WWII Planes

**Art:** The Work of Cezanne, Watercolour Landscapes

**French:** Presenting Myself, World War Two

**Computing:** Coding and Online Safety, Spreadsheets

**Music:** Harvest and Christmas Songs; Playing the notes B, A, G, C, D on the recorder; Bach and Amy Beach

**PSHE:** TEAM: Together Everyone Achieves More, Health and Wellbeing: Think Positive

**PE:** Outdoor Games (e.g. football, tag rugby and hockey), Gymnastics

Please see the school website to see our Long-Term Plan, showing planned curriculum coverage for the whole academic year.

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