

PUDDLEBRIDGE

INFORMATION 2023-2024

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. Miss Heritage and I are excited to be teaching in Puddlebridge again and we are delighted to welcome Ms Maddock and Mrs Brazier to our team.

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. If you have any further questions after reading, please just ask! I am usually available at the start and end of the day so please do come to speak to me outside the classroom door if you need anything.

Miss Pear

STAFFING

Miss Pear - Class Teacher

Miss Heritage, Ms Maddock & Mrs Brazier - support in class throughout the week

Mrs Dean - teaches Computing

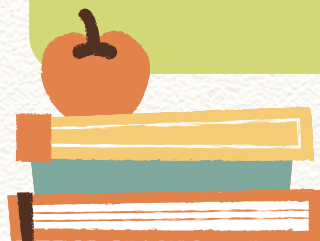
Mrs Minnis - teaches Music

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 their **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.

ARRIVAL & 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

Your child's 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 **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 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.

SWIMMING

Puddlebridge will be taking part in swimming lessons from the **12th September**. These will take place every Tuesday morning. Please ensure they have the appropriate kit.

PENCIL CASES

We ask that all Year Five pupils have a small pencil case which will fit easily into their tray. Year Fours may also bring a pencil case if they wish (although this is not essential). Essential items will be provided by the school. It is important that children look after their equipment carefully.

OUR CURRICULUM

Lots of our work this term will be based around our topic, **'The Romans'**. In our History lessons, we will be learning all about this ancient civilisation. We will be taking a trip to St Albans in October to support our learning (details to follow separately). Later on in the term, we will be learning about North America in Geography.

English: We will be starting with a unit on Roman Myths. Following this, we will look at a variety of texts to develop our reading and writing skills. We will be reading 'The House with Chicken Legs' by Sophie Anderson.

Maths: We will continue to follow the National Curriculum.

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

RE: We will be learning about Buddhism, thinking about the key question: *Is it possible for everyone to be happy?*

Art: Roman Mosaics

French: Presenting Myself; The Romans

Computing: Coding; Online Safety

Music: Harvest and Christmas songs; performing the recorder

PSHE: VIPs (Very Important People); TEAM (Together, Everyone Achieves More)

PE: Swimming; Football (taught by Rising Stars)



HOME LEARNING

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 all facts up to 12×12 , then please spend a few minutes each day on **Times Tables Rock Stars**; it really does make a difference. All children will be expected to complete their weekly session.

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

YEAR 4

Year 4 children are also required to complete one Science and one History/Geography homework project each half term. Please see separate sheets for details.



YEAR 5

Maths and English homework will be set every Monday and should be submitted by Friday morning each week (commencing w/b 18th September). This will usually be set via Seesaw.

Year 5 children are also required to complete at least one **homework project** each half term (see separate sheet for details). These will link to our History/Geography and/or Science learning.

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.