

Welcome

Red kites





Routine

The gate opens at 8:40 and register is taken promptly at 8.50. *(It is great to see so many children using the breakfast club facility as this ensures pupils come into class at 8:35.)*

Children have an early morning activity during register, so it is important that they arrive promptly.

Generally, our day starts with English. This will include whole-class guided reading, spelling, punctuation, grammar as well as focused writing tasks.



Routine

Maths is being taught as a whole class after morning break. Pupils are learning the same content; however, the level of challenge is different for each year group.

Our class reader is linked to our topic wherever possible. This term we are reading *The Secrets of the Tomb: The Phoenix Code*. The story is set in Egypt. Through whole class guided reading, pupils will be developing their comprehension skills whilst also taking the opportunity to analyse the author's language, structure and style.



Reading

Initially, during our whole-class reading sessions, we will be focusing on exploring and using **key reading strategies** and **key reading skills** needed to comprehend successfully.

As well as reading the class text together, pupils will choose a book from our range of **banded books**. Pupils will read this book at school, completing a focused reading task for each book they read, developing and using key reading strategies and reading skills.

Pupils will also choose a book from either our **banded books**, our **class library** or the **school library**, ensuring they have a **book of their choice to read at home for their reading homework**.



Spelling

Pupils will be following the Spelling Shed scheme of work, ensuring new spelling patterns are introduced, building on prior knowledge as well as revisiting previous spellings.

During lessons, pupils learn about the etymology (history) of a word and morphology (how a word is built).

Pupils learn to break words down into syllables and then into phonemes to improve spelling accuracy.



Maths

It is crucial that pupils know their **times tables up to and including the 12 times table**, including the inverse calculations. Children will be completing regular times table tests to improve their recall, accuracy and pace.

While we will explore the patterns in the times tables during maths lessons, children should be spending time each week learning their times tables at home, learning the inverse calculations and manipulating learnt number facts.

Multiplication sheets will be provided to support pupils. They should also continue to use **Times Table Rock Stars**.

We try to incorporate maths across the curriculum wherever possible to consolidate pupils' knowledge or make stronger links to other subjects.



Presentation

As well as improving the overall presentation of their work, pupils will continue to focus on making improvements to their handwriting so that they produce written work **clearly** and at a good **pace**.

Spelling will be incorporated into handwriting practice as joined handwriting supports accurate spelling and helps to increase the speed at which pupils write.



PE/Swimming

In terms 1 and 2 and terms 5 and 6, PE will be taught on a Monday afternoon. Therefore, children should come into school in their PE kit (plain black shorts or joggers, white t-shirt, School PE hoodie / plain hoodie or sweatshirt) on Mondays.

We will aim to have PE lessons outdoors whenever the weather permits. Please ensure your child's PE kit is suitable for cold weather.

Swimming starts in January for pupils in **Year 4** and **Year 5**. Swimming will run for 10 weeks (term 3 and 4). Children should wear their school uniform and bring in their swimming costume, towel and hat. Full details will be provided before the Christmas holiday. *During term 3 and term 4, Year 6 will complete focused maths and reading work on a Monday afternoon.

During terms 3 and 4, PE will also be taught on a Wednesday morning. Therefore, both Year 5 and Year 6 pupils should wear their PE kit on a Wednesday during term 3 and 4.



Homework

Each **term**, pupils will be given their homework sheet, detailing their **reading, maths, topic** and **spelling** homework for the whole term.

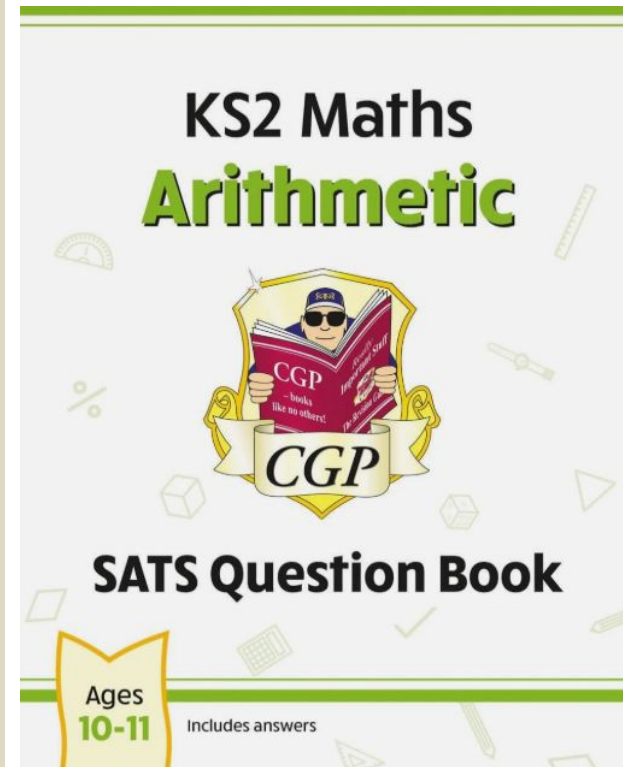
Children should **read** for **20 – 30 minutes each day**, including reading aloud to improve their pace, intonation and expression. Sharing a book with your child also promotes book discussion. Pupils need to record which book they are reading in their reading diary. They should also note unfamiliar words together with the definitions and any wonder questions they think of as they read.



Homework

Children should continue to practice their times tables, using ***Times Table Rock Stars***. Pupils have been given additional resources to help them with their homework: **two multiplication sheets** and a **sentence structure information sheet**.

This year children are also being issued with maths and reading CGP books. Whilst some work will be completed at school, pupils will also use these books for homework. They will be given details of which questions/pages they need to complete. **IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THEY COMPLETE THIS WORK EVERY WEEK AND BRING IN THE BOOK AS WE WILL BE REVIEWING THE ANSWERS IN CLASS EACH WEEK.**





Homework

Children should continue to practice their times tables, using ***Times Table Rock Stars***.

Pupils have been given additional resources to help them with their homework: **two multiplication sheets** and a **sentence structure information sheet**.

Topic homework, will sometimes include an element of book or internet research. Children have an opportunity to present their work in an original, creative way.

Spelling homework will complement the spelling work the children complete each week in class.

There is an expectation that the presentation and content of homework should be of a very high standard.

Pupils will bring home a reading diary and homework pack. The pack contains everything the children need to complete their homework. The pack also includes resources for the children to use for their homework.



Year 5 & 6 Red Kites Class Homework: Term 1

This term our **history topic** is **Ancient Egypt** and our **science topic** is **Light**. Detailed below is a range of **reading, maths, spelling** and **topic related activities** for pupils to complete. Children should **read daily**. Homework will be given out on a **Friday** and **must** be completed and returned on the following **Wednesday**. Thank you

Reading	Maths	Topic Homework - Ancient Egypt
Read for 20- 30 minutes each day. Record, in your reading diary, words you found difficult to read or were unfamiliar. Use a dictionary to find the definitions of these words and record the definitions in your reading diary. In addition, please record any intriguing wonder questions you think of as you read in your reading record.  If you are reading a nonfiction book, create an informative quiz, devising 5 questions. Record both the questions and answers in your reading diary. <i>How many different question styles can you use?</i> <i>Example: true or false, fact or opinion, multiple choice or find two or three pieces of evidence from the text to justify your answer.</i>	Practise your times tables each week, focusing on learning the times table in the following order: 5 and 10 times tables, 2, 4 and 8 times tables, 3, 6 and 9 times tables, and finally the 7, 11 and 12 times tables. Practise by using Times Table Rock Stars.  <i>Times table sheets have also been provided to support your learning. You will complete regular, focused times table tests, including inverse calculations, to monitor your progress and speed.</i> A separate maths sheet will be provided, stating which questions/pages you need to complete in your CGP maths books each week. It is important that your homework is completed on time and brought in every Wednesday so that it can be reviewed. Spelling  This term, spelling and grammar homework should be completed on Spelling Shed. Choose from a range of spelling and grammar games. Please make sure you complete each game fully so that your activity is recorded. Login details have been provided separately with instructions on how to log on and play. Separate compulsory activities will also be set shortly for pupils to complete.	Select one of the following ideas Hand in on Wednesday 21st October 2026 Design and make a set of Top Trump cards about an aspect of Ancient Egypt that interests you. For example, you could make a set of cards about some of the gods and goddesses worshipped by the Ancient Egyptians or perhaps you could make a set of cards about significant pharaohs that ruled Ancient Egypt. Complete independent research, using either books or searching online. <i>Create at least four categories for your cards.</i> Complete research on an aspect of Ancient Egypt that interests you. For example, this could be Ancient Egyptian fashion. Create a magazine showing the latest trends in clothes, hairstyles and jewellery for the fashion conscious Ancient Egyptian.  Present information in an original way. For example, find out who Tutankhamen was and how he was discovered. Make a replica Tutankhamen burial mask, using papier mache. On the reverse, include key information about Tutankhamen. Alternatively, explain how the Ancient Egyptians communicated and write your name in Hieroglyphs inside a cartouche.

Maths Homework

This term you will be using two of your maths CGP books: **Arithmetic** and **Number, Ratio and Algebra**.

Please read the instructions below carefully to avoid answering more questions than you need to! 😊

Please ensure you present your work clearly. Use a pencil and ruler when completing ALL answers.

Please do not rub out work, simply put one line through any errors so that I can see how you have improved your work.

Book to use	Year 5	Year 6
Number, Ratio and Algebra	Place Value and Roman Numerals Page 1 Complete questions 4 and 5 ONLY	Place Value and Roman Numerals Page 1 Complete ALL questions: 1 - 5 inclusive
Arithmetic	Using Times Tables Pages 10 Complete ALL questions: 1 - 8	Using Times Tables Pages 10 and 11 Complete ALL questions: 1 - 16
Number, Ratio and Algebra	Ordering Numbers and Rounding Page 2 Complete ALL questions: 1 - 5 inclusive	Ordering Numbers and Rounding Page 2 and 3 Complete ALL questions on page 2 (Q 1 - 5) Complete ALL questions on page 3 (Q 6 - 9)
Number, Ratio and Algebra	Ordering Numbers and Rounding Page 4 Complete questions 11, 12 and 13 ONLY	Ordering Numbers and Rounding Page 4 Complete ALL questions: 10 - 14 inclusive
Arithmetic	Written addition Pages 1 and 2 Complete ALL questions on page 1 (Q1 - 8) Complete ALL questions on page 2 (Q 9 - 18)	Written addition Pages 2 and 3 Complete ALL questions on page 2 (Q 9 - 18) Complete ALL questions on page 3 (Q 19 - 26)
Arithmetic	Written Subtraction Page 4 and 5 Complete ALL questions on page 4 (Q1 - 8) Complete ALL questions on page 5 (Q 9 - 18)	Written Subtraction Page 6 and 7 Complete ALL questions on page 6 (Q19 - 26) Complete ALL questions on page 7 (Q 27 - 34)



Red Kites - Term 1 Ancient Egypt

Maths

In maths, pupils will revisit and extend their knowledge of the base ten number system, focusing on understanding place value, including standard and flexible partitioning. Pupils will add multiples of ten, noting which digits stay the same and which digits change. Children will compare, order and round increasingly large numbers. Pupils will strengthen their ability to add and subtract mentally as well as developing accurate use of the formal written method of addition and subtraction.

JIGSAW

Children explore the topic: ***Being me in my world***. They will consider their role as a citizen of the school and how they fit in and can positively contribute to the school community. They will help to create their class expectations and will learn about children's rights.

Computing

This term, pupils will continue to develop their coding skills. Using *Scratch*, pupils will learn how to change their sprite (character), change the background for the stage and add actions, music and script to their animation.

FRENCH

In French, pupils will learn how to say and write the days of the week and the months of the year. The unit also provides opportunities to revise numbers.

History

As historians, pupils will explore key aspects of the Ancient Egyptian era, including the three main kingdoms and the ideas, beliefs, rituals, attitudes and experiences of men, women and children. Pupils will also explore key historical sources of evidence, understanding how and what we learn about the past.

English

Class texts: *The Secret of the Tombs: The Phoenix Code*

As the class text is read, pupils will revisit key reading strategies and reading skills, deepening their understanding of what they read, focusing on inferring key details about a character's personality and their motives.

As writers, pupils will be writing a descriptive narrative and a non-chronological report.

In grammar, pupils will review and further develop their understanding of sentence structure, including subordinate clauses, relative clauses, fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases. They will also consolidate their knowledge of word classes.

TRIPs and Visit

Pupils will be visiting the Ashmolean Museum to participate in a workshop to learn more about the Ancient Egyptian era and how historians use artefacts to learn about the past. An Ancient Egyptian workshop in school is also being arranged so pupils can learn about the beliefs and rituals of the Ancient Egyptians.

Art

This term, pupils will be creating mixed media self portraits. They will select from a range of materials and techniques to achieve their desired effect.

Science

As scientists, pupils will be learning about how we see things. They will investigate if light travels in straight lines and explore the effect of light travelling through different mediums. They will explore how shadows are formed and increase or decrease in size. They will review the dangers of the sun and how to protect their eyes.

PE

In PE this term, children will be participating in striking and fielding games: cricket and tennis. In cricket, they will focus on throwing, catching and batting accuracy as well as working as a team. In tennis, pupils will develop and improve the execution of a range of strokes, including forehand, backhand and serving.

RE

Pupils will study Hinduism this term. They will learn about the five duties of Hinduism, the four stages of life for Hinduism (Ashramas), key stories, including the story of Rama and Sita and learn about the life and work of Gandhi. They will learn about the cycle of life and the importance of Karma and Moksha.



Trips and Training

This term we have a trip to the Ashmolean Museum booked (Morning workshop - Tuesday 6th October). Children will learn more about the Ancient Egyptian era as well as learning how historians use artefacts to understand key aspects of the past.

A visit from Hands on Oxfordshire Heritage has been booked to deliver an Ancient Egyptian workshop, covering further aspects of our topic. (Thursday 24th September - afternoon)

In January, we are planning a visit to the Black Country Living Museum, linked to our next history topic – The Industrial Revolution.



Essentials

It is essential that pupils make sure they have a **water bottle every day**. Preferably a reusable bottle with a non-spill sports top.

Children **must** have a **change of footwear** if they **intend playing on the field**, especially when the **weather changes**.

All school uniform should be **labelled** so that it can be **reunited** with **your child** should it become lost.



Oral Health

Oral Health is one of our school priorities this year (in line with Government guidance and support from our local Oral Health Improvement Team)

- Healthy lunchboxes and snacks
- No sweets to be shared in school on birthdays.
- Increased knowledge for our entire school community

All staff are now 'Oral Health Champions' following training during Inset.

A date for your diary: **Friday 9th October, 2:30pm**. We will be welcoming one of the Oral Health Leads to help launch our initiative and share information with families. Please come!





Year 6

SATS Week! Monday 10th - Thursday 13th May 2027

Maths - 3 papers: arithmetic and two reason and problem solving papers

Reading - 1 paper: three extracts and three sets of questions

SPAG - 2 papers: spelling - 20 words and a grammar, spelling and punctuation paper (50 questions)

All papers are marked externally.

Writing is assessed internally by myself and Mrs Hanwell - we moderate writing across the school during the year to agree levels. We also regularly moderate writing externally with a local school.



Year 6

Please support your child (children) to organise a homework routine that works for your family, ensuring that they complete their homework fully and hand it in on time.

Please encourage your child to read for pleasure.

Please ensure your child has a good bedtime routine - during sleep one of the things the brain does is to organise and store information.

Extra SATs preparation - Term 2 (Tuesday or Thursday 8:00 - 8:30)

Secondary school admissions - please read the letter sent recently by Mrs Mackay.