Mandeville Primary School

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September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school. We hope that you have all had an enjoyable summer and are ready to start your child's penultimate year at Mandeville. We wanted to start by saying thank you so much for the lovely gifts we received at the end of last term. We felt very spoiled.

Staff

We will both be teaching the class throughout the year. Mrs. Barrett will be the class teacher on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs. Woods will be teaching the class on a Thursday and a Friday. Miss Ball will be the Year 5 LSA, supporting the children's learning each morning. We also have Mrs. Weatherly supporting some children in the mornings.

Curriculum

English

English sessions are split into reading, writing, spelling and handwriting.

Spelling sessions will focus on the Year 5/6 word lists and spellings that follow a set rule. Each week the children will be given 20 spellings: 5 from the Year 5/6 word list and 15 that fit the rule. These will be given on a Friday and tested the following Friday. It is extremely important that the children try not to just learn the spellings but to also learn the rules that have been set so that they can apply their spelling rules in writing lessons. These will be stuck into their large pink spelling book and also available on Google Classroom.

The children will have daily guided reading sessions. They will be accessing both whole texts, as well as extracts.

This term, the children will be completing both fiction and non-fiction units of work in their writing sessions; many of these will be based on texts which will be read in class. It is vital that the children continue to practise their cursive handwriting to ensure that their work is legible, neat and demonstrating age-related writing expectations.

Mathematics

Mathematics is split into three sessions: arithmetic, fluency and targeting learning. There will be 5 mathematics sessions a week. In addition to this, we will have fluency sessions and mental arithmetic practise. We will be continuing to rehearse our times tables to keep these skills fresh.

Throughout this term, we will be investigating place value, decimals, negative numbers and properties of number, as well as a focus on the formal methods.

Science

This term, the science topics being covered are Earth and space, properties of materials and working scientifically.

Foundation subjects

This term, the children will cover both history and geography. Their geography learning will have a focus on mountains, and their history will take a look at the Vikings.

We are very excited to share that Year 5 will have music lessons this term, where they will be learning to play the recorder. We have a class set of recorders but children are also welcome to bring their own recorder in if they wish .

Daily Routine

The bell will go at 8.40am, when the children should make their way onto the Key stage 2 playground. A small reminder that no parents or carers should come onto the Key Stage 2 playground. If they have a packed lunch, their lunch box should be placed into the Year 5 box, which is located beside the hall door, before they line up. The gates will be closed at 8.45. If your child arrives after this time, please take them to the school office so that they can be registered. Morning work is provided to encourage children to settle to tasks calmly. Morning tasks will focus on either arithmetic or writing.

Each morning, the children will have a guided reading session, a maths lesson and an English lesson. Spelling and handwriting lessons also take place in the mornings. On occasions, to maximise timetabling opportunities, sessions may move to the afternoons. Our afternoons are generally spent on the remaining curriculum areas.

The school day ends at 3.15pm. As we in Year 5 now, we are encouraging the children to take responsibility for their own time, space and belongings, ensuring that they pack up and create a tidy space at the end of the day within a suitable time frame.

Expectations

Uniform

The children must wear the Mandeville school uniform and bring in the correct PE kit. Please ensure that all clothing is named and that your child's P.E kit is in school every day. Trainers are also required for outside PE lessons and we would encourage the use of tracksuit bottoms and jumpers as the weather becomes colder. For girls who wear tights, please also provide a pair of socks. The children must have long hair tied back in a simple band. For PE lessons, earrings must be removed or taped (please provide plasters/micropore) for health and safety reasons. Watches, including those that track exercise, will need to be removed for most PE lessons.

Girls	Boys
White polo shirt with school crest (preferred)	White polo shirt with school crest (preferred)
Red round necked sweatshirt or cardigan with school crest	Red round necked sweatshirt with school crest
Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore	Grey trousers
Plain red or grey tights or white or grey socks	Plain grey socks

PE	PE
Black shorts with school crest	Black shorts with school crest
Red round necked t-shirt with school crest (preferred)	Red round necked t-shirt with school crest (preferred)
Trainers	Trainers
Black tracksuit bottoms and top if required	Black tracksuit bottoms and top if required

In class

In class, we have very high expectations of behaviour in order to maximise the learning of all of the children. The children will also be expected to work hard and organise themselves efficiently. As a school we can provide everything which your child requires for their lessons. However, this year, we have agreed that the children are able to bring in their own pencil case from home if they would like to. These need to be flat pencil cases.

We are encouraging neat, well-presented work in class with a large emphasis on cursive handwriting. Should your child wish to use a different black pen than the one provided, please ask them to show it to us and we will advise if it is suitable or not.

Hometime

At the end of the day, please collect your child from the Key Stage 2 playground. Please ensure that if your child is going home with someone else, you inform the office. Your child will not be released unless we have this permission.

Snacks and Drinks

The children in Key Stage 2 need to bring in their own snack. The school's policy is that either fruit or vegetables can be brought into school. This means snacks such a 'winders' or cereal bars are not to be brought into school for break time. Snacks need to be in your child's bag and not in their lunch box as lunch boxes are not available during break time.
Bottles filled with water are highly recommended and the children have access to these during the day; please ensure that these are labelled. It is your child's responsibility to take the bottle home each night to clean and refill it.

Health and Cleanliness

As your child enters their penultimate year at Mandeville, they are likely to begin to see changes in their body. Please ensure that your child is bathing regularly and is wearing clean uniform. If you feel that your child needs to use deodorant, then please apply this before school. To maximise learning and engagement, please make sure that your child has enough sleep throughout the night.

Homework

Children are expected to read at home at least 5 evenings a week. This broadens their vocabulary and has a huge impact on their writing style and skills. At least three times a week your child should be reading to an adult, however, parents should sign the reading record every night that their child reads. Hearing your child read at least three times a week will allow you to pick up on their fluency and understanding. We will be monitoring reading records to see how often children are reading as this is such skill

which impacts all curriculum areas.
Guided reading and comprehension sessions will also be recorded in your child's reading record. Every child will also have a spelling book. Both books will need to be in school every day and taken home every evening.

This term, homework will sent out via Google Classroom. As a school, we are endeavouring to be more sustainable and environmentally friendly by reducing the amount of paper that we use. All children will have their login details stuck in their spelling books and will have logged on by next Friday. Homework will take the following forms:

- **Reading** - we are encouraging children to read every day. This does not always have to take the form of a reading book. It can include sharing a book together, being read to, or reading generally in everyday life. Please sign your child's reading record so that they have read, what they've read and to whom.
- M**athematics** – this will be set on My Maths. It may be linked to their in-class learning or something that needs revisiting. These will be set on a Friday and the children will have a week to complete it. We will monitor this to ensure that everyone is doing this homework.
- **Spellings** – spellings will be given out every week for children to learn and practice. On a Friday, children will be given a spelling test before the next set of spellings are given out.

How you can support at home
Below are some websites that may help to support to your child at home.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/
http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/
http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Interactive.aspx?cat=20
http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Interactive.aspx?cat=29
http://www.mathszone.co.uk/
http://thinkingblocks.com/
http://www.mathplayground.com/games.html
http://mathsticks.com/my/
http://nrich.maths.org/primary-lower
http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/maths-owl/fun-activities/age-7-9--5
http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/page/default.asp?title=Woodlands%20Junior%20School&pid=1
http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/
http://www.theguardian.com/books/series/building-a-children-s-library
http://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk

Encouraging your child to read widely and to complete their homework is the best help you can give your child. At this end of the school, we would recommend the children 'have a go' at their homework even if they are finding it a little challenging.

There are many educational visits that would support your child's learning; these could be to the theatre, which may inspire their writing, to the Natural History Museum and the Science Museum. Taking your child to the local library can also support children and vary their interests in a range of topics.

Playing games with your children is still vital as this age. Games such as Scrabble, Boggle, Pass the Bomb, Monopoly, Game of Life, Ingenious, Blocker, Traffic Jam and card games will all support your child's literacy, maths and logical/strategic thinking learning.

If you have any questions or concerns, either now or in the future, please don't hesitate to ask us. We are looking forward to taking your child through their penultimate year at Mandeville.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Barrett and Mrs Woods
Year 5 class teachers