



Richard Durning's Endowed Primary School  
Chorley Road  
Bispham  
L40 3SL

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

Dear Oak Class Parents,

We hope you have had a wonderful summer break. Thank you so much for your kind gifts and cards at the end of term. They were very much appreciated.

We are very much looking forward to this term's learning in Oak Class. Just to remind you Y4/5 will be taught each morning by Mrs Bowey and Y6 will be taught by Mrs Hodgson. In these lessons we will teach all aspects of English including Guided Reading and Maths. Y5/6 will be taught PSHE with Mrs Hodgson and Y4 will be taught by Mrs Bowey with the Y3 children. Y5/6 will be taught French with Mrs Bowey and Y4 will be taught by Miss Canavan with the Y3. We have linked these year groups together in this way as the content for the year groups matches. Y4/5/6 will come together in the afternoons - Science and PE will be Monday afternoon with Mrs Bowey and Mrs Tilley will teach all the other foundation subjects Tuesday to Friday afternoons.

All children are expected to bring their book bag daily with their reading record and reading book. This will be stored on their peg. We do not have room for rucksacks or other bags. If your child needs a new book bag these can be purchased from Badgers Uniform Shop.

We would like to welcome all parents to our **Curriculum Workshop on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 3:30pm or 6pm.** This is an important meeting where you will find out about the learning and how we teach. We really do hope you can join us. Mrs Hodgson will run the Y6 one and Mrs Bowey will run the workshop for years 4 and 5.

**Curriculum for this term:**

**Guided Reading and English**

**Year 4 and 5** will be reading *The Midnight Guardians* by Ross Montgomery, an exciting adventure story linked to our topic of World War 2. This novel will be studied in Guided Reading and will be the basis of our writing. We are starting this term by writing diaries and character descriptions, focussing on different sentence starters and verb tenses. Within all subjects we are continuing to really focus on **handwriting and presentation**. We want our children to be proud of the work they have presented and use their cursive handwriting for all of their writing. Your support with this is much appreciated.

**Year 6 with Mrs Hodgson** will be reading *Goodnight Mister Tom* by Michelle Magorian, which is linked to our topic on World War 2. This novel will be studied in Guided Reading and will be the basis of our writing. We are starting by writing diaries before moving onto scene description. During each lesson we will cover grammar work which will also be linked to our writing. I expect all year 6 to use cursive handwriting at all times and ensure all letters are correctly formed and neatly presented.

**Maths** topics to cover and learn are: **Year 4** - place value, addition and subtraction, area and multiplication and division. **Year 5** - place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division and fractions.

Tables test are every Friday. The times tables your child is learning is posted in the Homework folder each week. It is very important that they practise at home, see the school website for suggested activities to support them with this. Also encourage them to use the Purple Maths test, just as we do in school each week. Please ask your child their weekly score.

**Year 6 with Mrs Hodgson:** Place Value, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Division until half term then fractions and units of measure until the end of term. Our tables test will be every Monday – please practise a number of times each week using PurpleMash or quick fire questions for speed and instant recall.

In **Science** the children will be investigating forces. We will continue to revisit our previous learning in Science.

**History:** This term is a history based unit focusing on a significant turning point in British history i.e. World War 2. The children were very excited to learn about this topic when I spoke to them about it before the summer holiday! During the topic they will learn about 3 specific golden threads; **leadership** (e.g. the key figures of World War 2), **society** (how the war affected peoples daily lives) and **legacy** (achievements that were caused by events of World War 2 and how World War 2 changed British history). Although this term is a history focused unit, children will also complete some spaced retrieval activities for **Geography** to keep these skills and knowledge fresh.

**PE:** PE continues to be a Monday and Thursday taught by WLSP staff. On a Monday the children will start with dance followed by Outdoor Adventurous Activities and a Thursday will be Health and Fitness followed by dance. Children must wear their full correct PE kit on these days. Please see note on school newsletters about earrings.

**Swimming:** This starts Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September and year 6 will go initially for a couple of weeks to check on their swimming ability and stamina, then years 4 and 5 will go. Dates will be confirmed for when years 4 and 5 will start soon. Please ensure your child has a swimming cap.

**RE:** The children's key enquiry question over the whole year: Where can people find guidance on how to live their lives? Each half term the children's units of learning will relate back to this key enquiry question and will be delivered through different religious worldviews. This half term the children are studying a Christianity worldview with the focus question: Why is it sometimes difficult to do the right thing? This is followed after half term by studying an Islamic worldview with the focus question: Why is the Qu'ran so important to Muslims?

**French:** Year 5 and 6 will be learning adjectives for describing people's physical appearance and their personality. Creating simple sentences ensuring that the adjectives agree with the gender of the noun. Year 4 will be practising a variety of French greetings and learning how to introduce themselves. Choosing the correct greeting based on the time of day and asking someone how they are.

**PSHE:** This term Year 4 with Mrs Bowey will be looking at all aspects of families and relationships and health and well-being. Years 5 and 6 will have PSHE with Mrs Hodgson and we will be covering Families and Relationships – Respect; Respecting Myself; Marriage; Bullying; Stereotypes and Challenging Stereotypes.

**Art:** This half term the children will be learning all about the World War2 artist Henry Moore and will be creating art pieces based on his work.

**DT:** The children will be working on this after half term and the focus will be: Food Technology, Come Dine with Me!

**Computing:** Over the course of the year children will be learning about various aspects of e- safety. There will be several focus areas: Self image and Identity, Online relationships, Online Reputation, Online Bullying, Managing Online Information, Health, well-being and lifestyle, Privacy and Security and Copyright and Ownership. Children will be following the Computing Scheme of Work on Purplemash.

**Music:** The children will be using Charanga with this term's unit: Musical Structures. Within this unit the children will listen and respond to a variety of different musical styles, learn to sing a song, play the glockenspiel using musical notation, improvise and compose, and develop their performing skills.



## Reading Focus

We are continuing with developing our Reading Superpowers and expect ALL children to read at home during the week. We ask that you do support us with this and ensure your child reads at least 5 times a week. They must complete their Reading Record Books to show us what they have read and ALSO their half term Reading Challenge-

found in their Reading Record books. BOTH of these are vital please so we can track what they have read. Reading records should be brought to and from school daily and will be checked on Thursdays in order to be entered into the Reading Challenge raffle. We have slim lined the system with reading cards to make it easier for all.

### **Homework**

This is set every Monday and to be completed by the following Monday. It is vital your child completes this as it is designed to be a spaced retrieval homework which means it consolidates previous learning and helps your child by retrieving previously known knowledge.

Spelling tests every Monday – Your child's spelling list is posted on Showbie so they can practise at home. Children will bring their test books home to share their scores with you.

All homework is on Showbie.

**Trips:** We have lots of exciting trips planned across the year including visiting the library and we have of course planned in lots of extra events throughout the year such as a class assembly, the Christmas Business Markets and Dragons Den. Information will be sent out for events and trips nearer to the time, watch this space!

As always, we are here if you need to contact us for any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support,

Best wishes,

Mrs Hodgson, Mrs Bowey and Mrs Tilley.