



Owls

Summer 1st 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of Owls,

Thank you for your support and encouragement last half-term. I hope you enjoyed our Easter Celebration at Chelmsford Cathedral. It's hard to believe that we are now entering our final term of Year 5. It's going to be a busy term – 2 more topics, swimming, athletics and lots more Maths and English too!

This Half-Term's Learning

This half-term, our topic is: **A TOUCH OF COLOUR**. This will be an art topic, exploring how artists use colour to reflect emotions and provoke reactions. These artists include: Olafur Eliasson, Yinka Ilori, Morag Myerscough and Liz West. We will also be learning about different art installations (in the UK and beyond) with a focus on the Art and Architecture of Kielder, which will also help us to develop our mapping skills.

We will begin our topic by reminding ourselves about complimentary, harmonious and clashing colours. For our topic outcome, we will be creating models of art installations. **Children will need a box, about the size and depth of a shoebox but it doesn't have to be a shoebox. They will need this for Weeks 5 and 6 but please do not send them into school before Monday 11th May.**

Home Learning:

- ❖ Maths and English assignments will be set weekly on Century. Please encourage your children to complete these assignments as they support and consolidate our classwork.
- ❖ There will be a list of **topic-related activities** which children may choose to complete at home. These projects may be during our Homework Celebration on Fridays. Feedback will be given verbally as each child presents his/her homework. **These activities are optional.**
- ❖ Spelling – children are expected to practise spellings at home via the 'Spelling Shed' website. The children will also do 'speedy spellings' on a daily basis; this will be an opportunity to revise KS1 and Lower Key Stage 2 keywords.
- ❖ Children will be expected to practise their times tables regularly as well. Times Tables Rockstars is particularly useful for this and children should aim to complete 5 x 10 minute sessions each week.

Reading:

- ❖ Reading logs will be checked on Mondays.
- ❖ Please read with your child at home, ideally 4 - 5 times per week. This should be recorded in your child's Reading diary.
- ❖ Children should have a 'levelled' reading book for when they are reading with an adult in school. Children will have access to other books in the classroom and library that they are welcome to take home to read.

General:

- ❖ Children do not need to bring in stationery, **although some children may prefer to have their own pens (blue, green and red), pencils, glue stick and whiteboard pen.** Please ensure that these are labelled so the children know what belongs to them.
- ❖ Our PE days are **Thursday (athletics) and Friday (swimming / PE with Year 4)** – please ensure children have the correct kit and footwear. (However, sometimes there are changes to the timetable so PE kits need to be in school all the time). PE kits can stay in school for the half-term. **If children are coming to school already wearing their swimming costumes (under their uniforms) on Fridays, please remember to pack clean underwear for after swimming!**
- ❖ No jewellery is to be worn for PE lessons.
- ❖ Children may wear a watch and a pair of small silver/gold stud earrings for school – no bracelets.
- ❖ **No makeup (including tinted lip balm and nail varnish) is to be worn.**
- ❖ Hair is to be tied up at all times during the school day.
- ❖ Your child should bring in a snack, which they may eat at break time. This may include: a piece of fruit or vegetable, plain crackers, hummus, unprocessed cheese or plain rice cakes. A copy of the school snack policy can be found on the school website.
- ❖ Your child will also need a named bottle filled with water every day.
- ❖ Year 5 children will be dismissed from the back playground at the end of the school day. If you know that someone different will be collecting your child, please inform the school office who will get the message to us.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to write a note in your child's reading diary, send an email via the school office (office@downham-ceap.essex.sch.uk) or catch me at the end of the day once all the children have been collected.

Kind regards,

Miss Boyd

THE **best** WAY
TO PREDICT
YOUR FUTURE IS TO
create it.
ABRAHAM LINCOLN