



9th September 2025

YEAR 5 AUTUMN TERM CLASS LETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to Year 5! Miss Honour, Miss Murphy, Mrs Edwards and Mrs Mitchell-Fox are looking forward to a productive and fun year ahead. Below is an outline of what we will be studying this term together with some additional general information. Over the course of the term, the children will have many opportunities to practise existing skills, acquire new ones and add to their knowledge base across the curriculum.

In **English**, we have started the term with a unit on poetry, based on the collection of art & poetry, *The Lost Words*, which will focus on developing our vocabulary. Later in the term, we will be writing information texts based upon the book 'Monsterology', as well as a focus on the book 'The Raft' with a wide variety of writing tasks. After half term, we will read war poetry, creating our own remembrance cinquains, and a descriptive writing unit around the book 'Cloud Tea Monkeys'. Our reading lessons will use the text 'The Journey to the River Sea'. Through this, we will be improving our comprehension and inference skills.

In **Maths**, we will be revising and extending learning of Year 4 principles. We shall start by looking at place value and rounding along with adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 before moving on to properties of number, negative numbers, strategies for addition and subtraction and formal methods of written multiplication.

Our **History** this term is the rich culture of the Ancient Egyptians; we will consider how Ancient Egypt came to be; the importance of the Nile, Gods and Goddesses; burial practices and how the Egyptians communicated in written form. This will be studied in Autumn 2.

Our **Geography** theme will be 'Rivers' where we will be locating rivers around the world and learning the correct terminology for the features of rivers. We will compare and discover more about the Amazon and Nile, to link to our Reading and History lessons. This unit will also include a local area study of the River Ver and a field investigation to collect data (wellies will be needed – date TBC).

PE consist of Lacrosse, Gymnastics and swimming. Our swimming lessons have been split across the two classes, a separate letter has been sent regarding swimming. The swimming lessons build on what they have learnt in Year 4 and continue to teach the children valuable water safety skills and develop their range of swimming strokes. A reminder that the children need to come to school wearing the appropriate PE Kit on Tuesdays.

For **PSHE**, we will begin by revisiting our nurture principles and Feel It emotions, thinking about how we can be the best learners and classmates we can be. We will use Whole School Circle time and our PSHE lessons to discuss a range of issues as a class, although our main focus will be the two jigsaw units- 'Being Me' and 'Celebrating Differences'.

In the first half of the term, our **Science** lessons will involve a study of the Solar System, with particular reference to the Earth, Sun and Moon. During the second half of term, we will develop our understanding of forces including gravity, air and water resistance, friction and levers and pulleys.

RE will cover aspects of Rules for Living and Symbolism in Christianity and Judaism, looking at the different symbols, their relevance and meaning.

In **Art**, we will focus on drawing and printing with a specific exploration of line and contrasting colour. We will begin by looking at contour lines and the contrasting colours used in work by Friedensreich Hundertwasser. Our explorations will finally lead us to creating artwork inspired by Henri Matisse.

After half term, we will change to **DT**, where we will learn about more complex switches and circuit, using our Scientific knowledge about electricity. We will explore the process of designing and making through research, designing a product by following a specific brief.

Computing will focus on coding and spreadsheets, using Purple Mash as well as other supporting programmes such as excel. We will regularly teach and address on-line safety throughout this term and across the year, both in Computing and PSHE.

During **Music** with Miss Wray and Mrs Hayden, the children will be starting music lessons with a 'music talk' activity, encouraging their critical thinking and listening skills around music. This term, there will be a new class project in which pupils will learn to play the ukulele.

Mrs Birss will teach children **French**, with a focus on describing their school life, explaining their favourites and talking about their birthdays. The children will continue to build their understanding of French sounds, words and patterns throughout the unit.

Reading: Please encourage your child to make time daily for this vital activity. Talk to them about their reading; ask questions that encourage them to retrieve information from a text, investigate unknown vocabulary or infer an author's meaning. There is a wide range of books for children to choose from and take home to read in our class library!

Homework will continue to be set on google classroom, every Friday. This will include Spelling and Maths activities every week, with an additional English or Topic task to enhance their learning from class.

If you have any queries, please use the year group email addresses geckos@stpeters.herts.sch.uk or swallows@stpeters.herts.sch.uk. We will endeavour to reply to you as soon as possible, but cannot check this during teaching hours of 8:30am – 3:30pm. For any urgent communication please copy in My Child Today or contact the school office.

Key Dates:

- Class Assembly – Geckos - Friday 10th October 9am
Swallows – Friday 7th November 9am
- Parent Consultation Evening – Tuesday 22nd October & Thursday 24th October
- Learn & Share (Book Look) – Wednesday 15th October 8.40 – 9.30

We recommend that you regularly check the school calendar on the school website for any other events that may occur throughout the term. We will also use the Google Classroom to send updates. We regularly update our class pages on the website with information about our learning. [Year 5 | St Peter's School](#)

We have enjoyed a great start to Year 5 – the children have returned with such enthusiasm - and we are very much looking forward to working with these classes over the coming year.

Kind regards,

Miss Honour & Miss Murphy