

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the final term of the school year; I hope you have enjoyed a relaxing Easter break with lots of rest and many family memories. As we look towards the end of the year, I am optimistic that the children will have a positive, enjoyable end to their time with us.

I hope that this newsletter gives you a flavour of what you can expect from the term ahead. Communication is so important, and although the beginning/end of the day does not allow for long conversations, you can always contact me via the school office.

I feel it is important that you have an understanding of what the school day looks like. Whilst there will be variations for SATs, writing assessment and end-of-year preparations and celebrations, please see the timetable below, which illustrates a typical week in Blenheim Class this term- this can be used to help you have conversations about what your child has been learning in school each day.

I look forward to continuing our partnership to help your child develop and grow their confidence, self-esteem and attitude as we head towards their transition to secondary school. I really hope your child enjoys their final term in Blenheim Class.

Miss Tucker

Timetable: Blenheim Summer 2025										
	Reg. Bell 8.40 8.45- 9.00	Session 1 9.00-10.15	Break 10.15- 10.30	Session 2 and 3 10.30-12.10		Lunch 12.10 - 1.05pm	Session 4 1.05- 1.30	Collective Worship 1.30-1.50	Class book 2.00- 2.15	Session 5 2.15-3.15
Mon		PE		Term 1: RE Term 2: Music	English		Independent Reading incl TAs		Class story	Term 1: Computing Term 2: RE
Tues - No KS2 worship		Maths		English incl. spelling	Guided reading		Independent Reading incl TAs	French	Class story	Science
Wed - KS2 worship		Maths		English	Guided reading (Term 2: PSHE)		Independent Reading incl TAs		Class story	PPA: PE
Thu		Maths		English	Guided reading		Independent Reading incl TAs		Class story	Term 1: History Term 2: Geography
Fri		Maths		Punctuation and Grammar (PAG)	English		Independent Reading incl TAs	Term 1: Art Term 2: DT		2:40pm Celebration Assembly

## SUPPORT TEAM

This is the team of adults, who support Blenheim class.

Mrs Shaw is our class Teaching Assistant. Mrs Monk is the school SENDCo..

Mrs Pook will teach the class on Wednesday afternoons.



Miss Tucker



Mrs Shaw



Mrs Monk

## Our Ambitious Curriculum at Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School

Our curriculum is a 'knowledge-rich' and 'sticky' curriculum, based on the teaching of core concepts and skills.

### WHAT IS A KNOWLEDGE-RICH APPROACH?

'The accumulated wealth of human knowledge, and what we choose to pass on to the next generation through teaching in our schools (the curriculum), must be at the heart of education' (Amanda Spielman).



Knowledge underpins and enables the application of skills. We strive for children to learn skills alongside knowledge, ensuring that both are developed. At Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School and Little Pips Nursery we see knowledge and skills as intertwined. We believe that this is important for making the curriculum relevant and meaningful to pupils and for putting knowledge into context. We have looked at every curriculum area individually, as we recognise that each subject is unique and includes its own substantive knowledge, disciplinary knowledge and skills. We have sequenced the content of many of our subjects using 'rolling programmes' which ensure that whatever path a pupil takes through the school, the National Curriculum content is covered. More importantly, our curriculum is a 'spiral curriculum' in which key concepts are presented repeatedly throughout the curriculum, but with deepening layers of complexity.

### PROMOTING READING

A good ability in reading is fundamental to everything that the children will learn in class during the year, and regular practice is therefore the most important aspect of homework that he or she will have. Please keep in touch with us if you are experiencing difficulties with helping your child with this vital regular activity. For our part, we will let you know if there is insufficient reading practice taking place. (Daily home reading is expected as least 5 times a week). Here are some top tips:

- All children need to read some of their book aloud to you whatever their ability
- Agree daily targets with your child. E.g. 10 pages or 20 minutes
- Discuss what your child is reading
- Read to your child regularly: this could be a book you have chosen together or could be your child's school book.
- Record all home reading in the reading diary.

### ACCELERATED READER

We use a reading scheme called Accelerated Reader for Key Stage 2, and for some pupils in Year 2, once they have progressed through the phonetically decodable books.

As the children bring their reading books home you will notice a system of levelling books. The number on the front of the book indicates the reading level (which has been determined by the results of a reading assessment that all the children have completed). This enables us to have a much firmer understanding of the children's progress. You will also hear about 'quizzes'. This enables the monitoring of the children's comprehension and whether they've understood their reading - not just read the words. Throughout the term, we will continue to celebrate and support the children with their reading habits and their comprehension skills.

Your child's decimal reading range corresponds to books, which aim to challenge your child yet be decodable without your child getting frustrated or losing understanding. Teachers will adjust reading ranges at their discretion.

Children should aim to score at least **80%** on a quiz in school to show that they have generally understood their reading text.

If your child is concerned that they are finding this tricky, they could try any of these:



- ★ Choose a shorter book.
- ★ Choose a book, which they prefer and find more engaging.
- ★ Ask to read more of their text with an adult, who will help them to infer the meaning of new vocabulary and show them how to summarise whilst reading.

In Blenheim Class this term, we will be studying the following units of work:

<b>English</b>	A range of independent writing opportunities using 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan and other short narratives.
<b>Maths</b>	Revision of all topics, focusing on calculations and fractions, decimals and percentages. After SATs, we will extend the children's understanding and focus on skills for transition into secondary school.
<b>PE</b>	Basketball and Rounders (Half-term 1), Athletics (Half-term 2)
<b>Music</b>	Rehearsing & Performing songs for our end of year showcase
<b>Art</b>	Painting and Mixed Media: Artist Study
<b>RE</b>	Why is there suffering and Religion in our world.
<b>French</b>	Le Carnaval des Animaux (The Carnival of the animals) - animals, including their habitat and diet and extending sentences with conjunctions.

<b>Science</b>	Evolution and Inheritance followed by Animals, including humans.
<b>Computing</b>	Computing Systems and networks and Data and Information
<b>Design Technology</b>	Structures - Playgrounds
<b>Personal Social Health Economic Education (PSHE)</b>	Family & Relationships, including respectful relationships, challenging stereotypes and resolving conflict.
<b>History</b>	Ancient civilisations: Ancient Egypt
<b>Geography</b>	How is climate change affecting the world?

Over the term, we will distribute Knowledge Organisers for science, DT and art for you to discuss what your child is learning in school. You can use a knowledge organiser in different ways: read through it together; discuss tricky vocabulary; quiz your child on the knowledge they have acquired; play true and false games with the facts.

## **PE Day: Mondays and Wednesdays**

If your child is unable to do PE for any reason, please provide a note/letter or phone the school office. Pupils should wear their school PE kits into school on those days. Jewellery including earrings, and watches, should not be worn for PE lessons.

## **Water bottles & Snacks**

We encourage children to bring in a labelled bottle containing water for the classroom, each day. Ideally, a sturdy, sports cap re-useable bottle works best. The children are able to refill these throughout the school day. Children are encouraged to bring fruit or vegetables for a breaktime snack.

## **Personal belongings**

We will work together with you to ensure that your child has learned to organise and respect their belongings. However, please ensure that your child's belongings are all labelled with their name. We supply all the stationery your child needs so a pencil case is not required. Children should not bring toys or other precious items to school.

## **Homework in Year 6**

The most important homework you can do is reading, at least 5 times a week. It is vital that this continues to be part of the children's homework routine.

In the lead up to SATs, children will continue to be set a 10-minute task for reading, maths and SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) each week. This is a total of 30 minutes each week. Answers are provided to help children in the moment to check and fix their work. Children are expected to complete one 10-minute task from each book and to tick or correct their work by Friday each week. They complete the 10-minute tests in order - just complete the next one each week.

Your child has been given a book at their level of challenge to support them to work most independently. Please do support your child in any way - but this is not expected. Children can chunk homework into three 10-minute blocks or 1 session. They can stop after 30 minutes if necessary and ask for support in the mornings in class. They can use answers to support their problem solving and perseverance if they are finding work tricky. They can ask you, if you are willing - we are not fixed on certain methods but children can also ask for my help in school time.

In SATs week, and after, children will not be required to do these for homework. We hope that they have established a sustainable routine ready for secondary school and have felt best prepared for their SATs.

After SATs, the expectation will be reading at least 5 times a week.

## **Communication**

Please email the school ([office@curryrivel.somerset.sch.uk](mailto:office@curryrivel.somerset.sch.uk)) and your message will be forwarded to me. You can also phone the school office to ask to speak with me. Please know that I am very willing to support you and your child with their wellbeing and learning.

We will be organising a parents' evening this term.