



## Razorbills Class Year 6 Welcome Letter Spring Term 2023

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Dear parents/carers and razorbills,

Welcome back everyone! I hope you've had a marvellous Christmas break and are ready for our next term in Razorbills Class, Year 6. This term we are building on our learning-to-learn skills and reflecting on our CHARACTER VIRTUES with our new topic - FROZEN PLANET - a topic focusing on polar regions. This is a taster of some of our big ideas and enquiry questions:

- ★ *How are the frozen kingdoms important to humans and wildlife?*
- ★ *If Antarctica was a piece of music it would be Burtner. Agree or disagree?*
- ★ *Shackleton, Barbara Hillary and Matthieu Tordeur were **inspirational adventurers**. Explain.*
- ★ *Penguins don't live in the Arctic Circle because...*

I have created a curriculum coverage map and timetable, which have been shared on Class 6 Class Dojo which summarises our learning this term.

### Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mrs Simpson and	Mrs Simpson (am)  Miss Gibson (pm) <b>PE Day</b>	Mrs Simpson	Mrs Simpson	Mrs Simpson

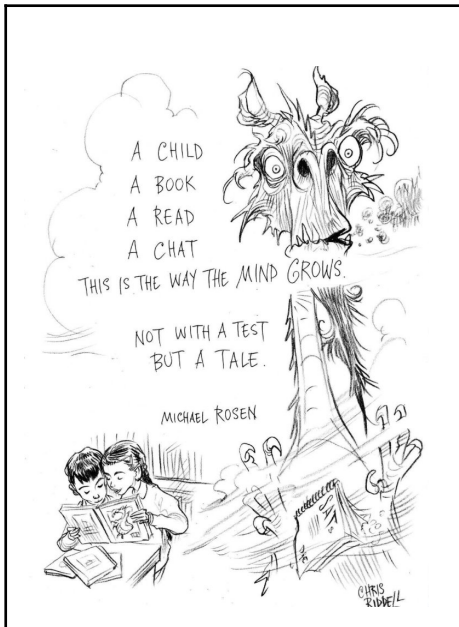
### **Timetable and routines reminder:**

- ★ **Drop off - 8:40am:** children will come into class independently. PLEASE aim to get there promptly as the **register will be taken at 8:50am**. Any late arrivals will need to go to the office in the first instance to register, inform of lunch arrangements and then come to class.
- ★ **Pick-up - 3:15pm** on the top playground, unless we have agreed other arrangements directly with myself for anyone walking home independently.
- ★ **Morning and After School Club** - please liaise directly with Miss Reed on 01271 870551 for more details. There is no After School Club on Friday.
- ★ **PE** - **children are to come to school on Tuesday in their PE kits**, but have a spare kit in case they are wet or muddy.
- ★ **Lunchtime** - packed lunches will be kept in children's rucksacks in Class 6 and eaten in the canteen or outdoors, with weather permitting. All school meals will be eaten in the canteen with a play time before eating. After lunch, the children will have plenty of time for toileting, more drinks and playing.
- ★ **RED Home School Diaries** - I will collect the diaries each morning, check and discuss the daily reading with your child. Plus, it's a great opportunity to share a new author and book title to inspire a love of reading. I am happy for the children to record their reading journey with the addition of a personal dictionary and word class bank on the inside of the back cover to help them *magpie* in class.
- ★ **Mile challenge 2023** - each Monday we will be sharing the mile run. Please check that your child wears their black trainers to school or brings their PE trainers in their backpack to change into at breaktime.

### **Home Learning**

We will continue to have literacy and/or topic-themed learning PLUS a maths task posted on **Google Classroom** each Friday and the hand-in date is the following Wednesday, when it will have a comment from me, a peer OR celebrated and shared in class. The aim of home learning is to practise the skills learnt in class and to have a go independently.

Secondly, please encourage your child to practise their CGP books that we gifted last term regularly, as we know that this empowers them to be confident and curious with their learning and understanding.



Last term, we had some great reading highlights with creating our personal reading journals and exploring some new text types (black out poem) and new authors (Owen and Sassoon).

This term, we will be looking forward to sharing some new books, such as *Animalium* and Shackleton's *Journey*. Please remember that sharing a book independently or together builds knowledge, empathy and vocabulary. More importantly, it's a superb way to be mindful and escape into a new world.

Looking ahead to the next few weeks, we will be focusing on the children's mindfulness skills and learning to learn skills. Excitingly, we'll be participating with two marvellous moments - Planetarium visit and a trip to Paignton Zoo - details will follow on Class Dojo. Plus, after February Half Term, we will be commencing our after school SATS BOOSTER sessions to support individuals, so we can best support your child as we progress towards our next milestone, SATS. I will also be informing you of a SATS information meeting after school, when I will summarise and explain the SATS process, so that you all feel prepared and ready. Again, look out for the date and time on Class Dojo: it will be in early March.

### **Our classroom, rules and expectations:**

★ Each child can bring their own **pencil case** with a blue handwriting pen, purple handwriting pen (e.g. purple BIRO), pencil and a **quality glue stick**. The school will provide rulers, highlighters and coloured pencils. If they have these, they will stay in their rucksacks, until I suggest that they are perfect with an appropriate task.

★ Each child needs a **Woolacombe School water bottle** EVERY DAY - clearly named. These will be taken home each day for cleaning. **Hydration is essential!** There is no water fountain at school now due to the COVID restrictions. Yet, taps with drinking water are located outside and in Class 6, so a water bottle (no squash or sugar-free fruit juices are allowed) is essential. Water is always available in the canteen at lunchtime.

★ No fiddle toys or personal belongings are to be brought from home, unless arranged with me in the first instance - they are a distraction for themselves, others and me!

★ A healthy snack (no crisps, chocolate bars or sweets) as there's NO Tuck Shop available for fruit or toast yet. *Snacks are to be put into rucksacks and not lunch boxes. We are aiming to reduce single-use plastic in school due to some litter.*

★ A uniform list was shared on Class Dojo at the end of last term. However, due to the classroom being well-ventilated, an underlayer or vest is recommended and no bare legs for those who feel the cold when the weather changes.

★ School shoes (not boots) or **ALL black** trainers are to be worn. No brightly coloured trainers and if they have laces, please endeavour to help them to learn

to tie them independently. Plus, shoes are to be worn with black, grey or white socks.

★ Hair and long fringes to be completely tied back in below shoulder level with non-fussy hair ties, hair dye/highlights and NO hair products for girls and boys.

★ NO nail varnish, semi-permanent tattoos or jewellery. Earring studs are allowed, but the children must not wear them on PE days - in line with the DEVON PE recommendations. It's recommended that they come to school with no earrings on PE days.

★ Packed lunch boxes (clearly named) to be stored in the school rucksacks in the class cloakroom. No plastic bags at this stage, as we are aiming to minimise our use of single-use plastics.

★ **PE is on Tuesday each week.** The children are expected to wear their PE kit to school - joggers or **black underlayers** are essential on colder days. A spare PE kit is also needed to change into, should the weather change or they get muddy playing games. A spare pair of shoes is essential to help keep the school environment clean. These do not need to be trainers. I do not have spare shoes in class and there is nothing worse than soggy feet!

★ **School lunches** need to be ordered the day prior to eating using the SchoolMoney Payment system on the website homepage. If they have no lunch ordered, the school kitchen will kindly organise a hot meal and you will be informed and charged accordingly. Please remember to share with your child what they are having so they are emotionally prepared and understand their choice that you have discussed together. If your child is a *fussy eater*, please select school meals that will be enjoyed, as they need fuel for the rest of the day and their learning. Also, a good breakfast is paramount, so please make sure that your child starts the day well with a good breakfast, as without, it can affect their experience in class.

★ **A warm water-proof coat is essential** to optimise the outdoor learning space as much as possible. We do NOT have spare coats in class, but in these times, fresh air is essential for mental and physical well-being. Even if it is sunny in the morning, it's possible that rainclouds will draw in, so a coat is essential.

### **Keeping in touch...**

Please remember to look on Class Dojo for any updates and learning opportunities. I love to share images on Class Dojo, but for any messages, please email me directly on [s.simpson@alumnismat.org](mailto:s.simpson@alumnismat.org) where I will do my best to respond ASAP, but I will not be able to respond during the teaching day with the children. If urgent, please contact the office team on 01271 870551 and they will be able to share with the Year 6 Teaching Team when appropriate. Thank you for your continued support and let's make this term supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

*Mrs Simpson*

*Class 6 Teacher*

