



## Razorbills Class Year 6 Welcome Letter Autumn Term 2023

5th September 2023

Dear parents/carers and razorbills,

Welcome back everyone! I hope you've had a marvellous summer break and are ready for our first half 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 - SHANG DYNASTY - a history topic focusing on one of the most ancient civilisations. This is a taster of some of our *big ideas* and enquiry questions:

- ★ *The Shang Dynasty was a period of **inspirational changemakers**. Agree or disagree?*
- ★ *The Shang Dynasty represented the whole of China? True or false? Explain.*
- ★ *What makes Li-Ji an **inspiring changemaker**?*
- ★ *Which material was deemed the most valued to the Shang people - bronze, jade or silk?*

A curriculum coverage map, knowledge organiser and timetable will be shared on Class Dojo and will be shared with the children, so they understand our daily routines and learning.

### Timetable:

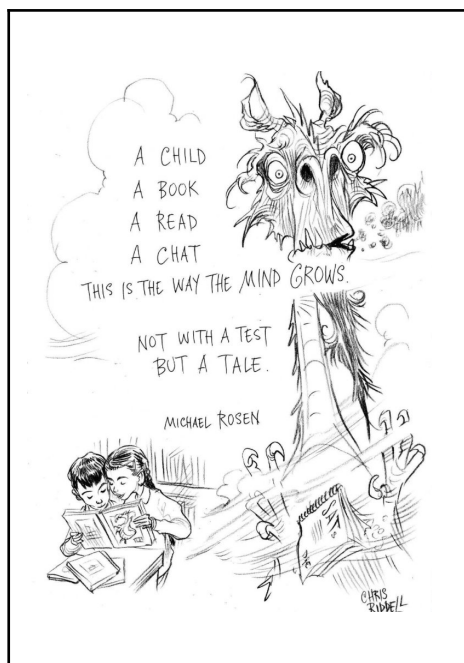
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mrs Simpson Mrs Thomson (Maths Intervention Lead)	Mrs Simpson Mrs Thomson (Maths Intervention Lead) Miss Gibson (pm) <b>PE Day</b>	Mrs Simpson Mrs Thomson (Maths Intervention Lead)	Mrs Simpson Mrs Thomson (Maths Intervention Lead) Clare Russell for Art and Music (pm)	Mrs Simpson

## **Timetable and routines reminder:**

- ★ **Drop off:** children will come into class independently at **8:40am**. PLEASE aim to get there promptly as the **register will be taken at 8:50am**. Any late arrivals will need to go directly 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 Mrs Hornsby or Mrs Towey on 01271 870551 for more details. Bookings are made on the SchoolPay website. *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. Black trainers are always suitable, especially if we can complete another mile and challenge our personal best.
- ★ **Lunchtime:** packed lunches will be kept in the children's rucksacks in Class 6 and eaten in the canteen or outdoors - 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 on arrival, 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.

## **Home Learning**

We will have literacy and/or history-themed learning PLUS a maths task posted on **Google Classroom** each Friday; 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.



This term, we will be looking forward to sharing some new books, such as 'The Wild Robot', and some of our favourites, including poetry and music.

The 'Woolacombe Way' is to share a book independently or together FIVE TIMES A WEEK, as reading builds knowledge, empathy and vocabulary skills. More importantly, it's a superb way to be mindful and escape into a new world. Those children who read each day build stamina and fluency, which underpins ALL of their learning in class and their understanding outside of Razorbills Class. Later this term, we will be launching our new ACCELERATED READER programme, which will support your child's comprehension and broaden their reading repertoire.

## 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 a cool water facility in the playground, where children can replenish their bottle throughout the day. Remember, no squash, sugar-free fruit juices or flavoured waters are allowed. Plus, 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). *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. Plus, it's the perfect opportunity for 'Fruity Friday', where the children have fruit, to reduce plastic waste and litter on site.*

★ 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 are to be completely tied back if below shoulder level with non-fussy hair ties. Hair dye/highlights and hair products for girls and boys are not permitted.

★ Save nail varnish, semi-permanent tattoos or jewellery for the weekend or occasions, but need to be removed for school. Earring studs are allowed, but the children must not wear them on PE days - in line with the DEVON PE Policy - safety recommendations.

★ 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 **water-proof coat** is **essential** to optimise the outdoor learning space, when it rains. Plus, a ONCE suncream is recommended and a named cap to protect from the sun's rays this summer.

**Important dates for your diary:**

- ★ **Meet The Teacher meeting - TBC**
- ★ **5:30pm, 11th September - Reading Parent Workshop**
- ★ **9am, 18th September - Maths Parent Workshop**
- ★ **9am, 25th September - SEND Parent Coffee Morning with Mrs Holmes**
- ★ **26th September - INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES DAY**
- ★ **9am, 13th October - Parent Mental Health Workshop**
- ★ **16th October - Parent Consultation Week**
- ★ **1:30pm, 19th October - Harvest Festival at St Sabinus. All are welcome.**
- ★ **20th October - INSET/Professional Day (no children)**
- ★ **3pm, 6th November - Spelling Parent Workshop**
- ★ **11am, 10th November - Remembrance Service - children only.**
- ★ **13th - 17th November - Anti-Bullying Week**
- ★ **17th November - Children in Need**
- ★ **Nursery and Reception, KS1 and KS2 Christmas performances TBC**
- ★ **Christmas Carol Service TBC**

*Please note that these dates are subject to change. I will endeavour to update you via Class Dojo, but continue to check the Woolacombe School website for further details.*

**Keeping in touch...**

Please remember to look on Class Dojo for any updates and learning opportunities. I love to share our learning journey on Class Dojo. You can also message me on Class Dojo, 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*

