# Oldfield Primary School

Bray Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 1UE
Telephone: 01628 621750
Website: www.oldfieldprimary.com

Headteacher: Mrs Catherine Page


2nd September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the start of the new academic year in Year 5. We hope that you had a very enjoyable summer break and the children are looking forward to the year ahead.

We would like to draw your attention to some of the things that will be happening during the Autumn term.

## Anglo-Saxon and Viking Day

**Wednesday 21st October**. More details to be sent out closer to the time.

## Home Learning

Home Learning will commence from w.c 7th September. Each child will bring home a Home Learning book for the children to record their Home Learning in. Home Learning will consist of a weekly maths activity linked to our White Rose curriculum and mental arithmetic questions. There may also be occasional additional Home Learning tasks which are more creative. Home Learning books will be sent home on a **Friday** and should be brought back in on **Wednesday.** Children who do not return homework on a regular basis may be asked to attend Mrs Page's homework club during a Wednesday lunchtime.

## Spellings

In line with statutory guidance, taken from The Writing Framework, and following consultation with an English consultant, we are taking a refreshed approach to spelling. Children will no longer be given weekly spelling lists to learn at home, nor will they be tested on them each week.

Instead, spelling will be incorporated through focused English lessons, where the children will learn and practise spelling rules and patterns appropriate for their year group. Regular practice and application of spelling rules through different contexts of their writing, and with regular feedback, will focus on embedding learning, rather than it being tested in isolation.

To support their learning at home, the children will be provided with a list of high-frequency words and statutory spellings that will be covered across the course of their year group and we would still encourage them to practise these spelling rules regularly at home.

## Reading

Reading is a vital skill that will support your child throughout his/her life. For this reason, daily reading is necessary to ensure that fluency and accuracy develops, whilst fostering a love for reading and books. Your child will be coming home with a reading book and a yellow reading record each day. Both of these will need to be brought back into school on a daily basis. As you hear your child read or supervise their reading at home, please include a comment/sign their record. In order to incentivise the children to read at home, those who bring in their yellow reading record with a comment/signature from their parent/carer will be entered into a prize raffle at the end of each term.

## Swimming

As per the letter sent out at the end of Year 4, the children will be attending weekly swimming lessons. Swimming lessons will begin on **Friday 12th September** and will continue throughout the whole of the Autumn term. The children will walk from school to Braywick and be back before lunch. Parents are very welcome to watch from the gallery, but only after the first week, as this is used as an assessment session allowing the Braywick staff to put the children into groups. Please make sure you send your child in with a suitable coat and additional footwear, according to the weather. If the weather is particularly bad, we will reserve the right to judge and cancel. The children should come into school in their PE kit on Fridays.

If your child is in school on a Friday, they must attend swimming lessons, as swimming is a National Curriculum requirement. If your child is unwell and unable to participate in swimming, they should remain at home, as we are unable to make alternative arrangements and they cannot accompany us to the swimming session. This does not apply to children with a broken or fractured injury, or to girls who are experiencing their period.

Please ensure that your child brings the following items each week:

- Swimming costume (No long beach shorts, proper swimming trunks should be worn) Girls should wear a one-piece swimsuit.
- Goggles
- Swimming hat for all children regardless of length of hair (including boys). Children will not be permitted to swim after the first week if they do not wear a hat.
- Towel (girls may wish to bring a hair towel wrap as well as their usual towel if they wish)
- Waterproof sock if your child has a verruca, or any foot infection
- Plastic carrier bag or waterproof bag for the wet costume. (Please do not send large bags as we do not have room in school to store them)

Please make sure each week that earrings are removed and no watches are to be worn for swimming.

## PE

PE for both classes will be on a **Tuesday afternoon**. The children are asked to come to school in their **school** PE kit. Outdoor trainers and tracksuits may be worn. Please ensure that these conform to our uniform policy (available to view on the school website under 'information for parents'). Please can you ensure that all items of PE Kit are clearly named/labelled, including trainers. Children should also wear their PE kit on a Friday for swimming lessons.

## Equipment

Please be aware that all children will need **at least one writing pen (dark blue or black) plus a spare** which they will use in many of the lessons. It is recommended that they have an appropriate writing pen that allows your child to write neatly. Your child should ideally have a named pencil case with pen, pencil, rubber, ruler and colouring pencils/pens to assist their schoolwork. We would like this pencil case to remain in school (**children are limited to one**

# Oldfield Primary School

Bray Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 1UE
Telephone: 01628 621750
Website: www.oldfieldprimary.com

Headteacher: Mrs Catherine Page


**pencil case in school**). We will have additional pencils and pens in school to support the children should they require them.

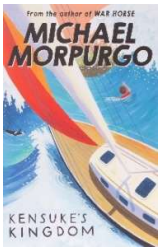
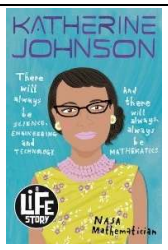
If you have any questions or concerns, please email the office who will pass them on to us.

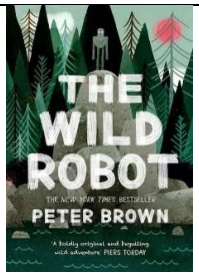
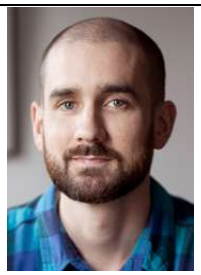
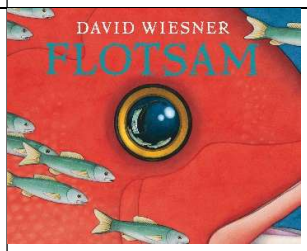
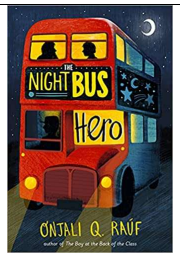
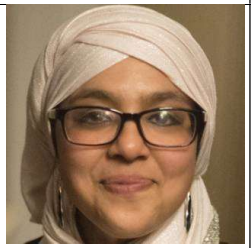
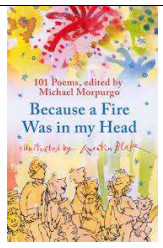
Yours sincerely,

Miss Whitelaw & Mrs Goodson-Smith (Monday – Wednesday) (Thursday and Friday)
Year 5 Tiger

Mr Marchant
Year 5 Giraffe

## Reading Spine – Year Five – Oldfield Primary

| Term | Key Text and Author | Title, author and publication date |
|---|---|---|
| Autumn 1 |   | **Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo 1999**<br>When Michael is washed up on an island in the Pacific after falling from his parent's yacht, the *Peggy Sue*, he struggles to survive on his own. But he soon realises there is someone close by, someone who is watching over him and helping him to stay alive. |
| Autumn 2 |   | **Inspirational People (Katherine Johnson) 2019**<br>This life story of a remarkable mathematician has at least some of the answers. And Katherine Johnson wasn't just a brilliant academic, she was also black and female, which makes her achievements all the more impressive. |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Spring 1 |   | **Wild Robot Peter Brown 2018**<br><br>When robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time, she discovers that she is alone on a remote, wild island. She has no idea how she got there or what her purpose is **-** but she knows she needs to survive. |
| Spring 2 |   | **Flotsum by David Wiesner 2006**<br><br>A young boy comes to the beach eager to collect and examine flotsam—anything floating that has been washed ashore. But nothing among his usual finds compares with the discovery of a barnacle-encrusted underwater camera with its own secrets to share . . . and to keep. |
| Summer 1 |   | **The Night Bus Hero by Onjali Q. Raúf 2020**<br><br>Hector is a bully who doesn't really care about anyone. When a spate of London landmark sculptures are suddenly stolen, including Paddington Bear and the Eros statue in Piccadilly Circus, Hector must race against time to make sure justice is done - but that's not the only thing he needs to change. |
| Summer 2 |   | **Because a fire was in my head edited by Michael Morpurgo 2001**<br><br>We only have to 'remember, remember the 5th of November' to see a dark night filled with fireworks and bonfires. In their many different ways - through their sounds, rhythms, stories, surprises and jokes - these poems will set the fireworks crackling in our own heads. |