

Carnforth Community Primary School



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Welcome to OWL Class

Welcome to Owl class! I hope you have all had a lovely summer break. Working alongside me this year will be Mrs Crayston. I will be out of class every Friday for management time and planning time so the class will be taught by Miss Rae. We have some exciting topics and extra activities in store and we have plenty of fun through the year provide your children with some lovely, long-lasting memories of their time at primary school; for Owl class children this also includes the Y5&6 residential trip to Borwick Hall and the Leavers' Assembly for Year 6 in July.

Independence

Developing independence is a really important part of being in Upper Key Stage Two. We are very aware that part of our role in school is to prepare our Year 6 children for their move to secondary school and with this in mind much of the Year 5&6 curriculum fosters responsibility and independence. All children are supported to become responsible for their own learning and behaviour, expectations are high and they are encouraged to work well both independently and collaboratively.

Behaviour

Children are expected to follow the three school rules: Be Safe; Be Ready; Be Respectful. In addition, we have created a class charter which consists of rights and responsibilities which your child (and the adults working with them) have all signed. Our behaviour policy is based on positive reinforcement, so when children follow the rules and the class charter, or are working well in class, they will receive Dojo points to praise their good behaviour. Weekly Dojo winners receive a certificate in assembly and can choose a day the following week where they can wear their own clothes. Negative dojo points will be given if a child does not hand in their homework on time or complete their three readings each week. To help children regulate their behaviour and emotions, we will continue to follow the Zones of Regulation. The children have been shown the space in the classroom for regulating and there are posters for breathing strategies, ear defenders and focus tools around the room which they may choose to use when needed. Children are encouraged to learn which techniques and/or tools work best for them to return to a regulated state and back to their learning task.

Homework

There is no specific set time allocated for homework, however we require all children to read a minimum of three times each week. They must get their reading records signed by an adult at home. In addition, we send home a homework menu every half term with a variety of different activities and tasks, all of which are optional except for the reading. Children are awarded with 10 Dojo's for each task completed and although they are optional, completing homework at home will set up Y6 children for high school; and for all children the tasks are usually an extension of their learning in school thus helping to consolidate their learning.

Curriculum

Our topics this year are:

Facing the Past – local history (Lancashire's involvement in the slave trade)

Battle of Hastings 1066

Water

The Greeks

South America

Space

Reading

It is important that children read regularly at home as this has shown to have a significant impact on children's language and writing skills. By Upper Key Stage Two we try to encourage independence in reading and a love of books. Most children will be heard reading less often in school, especially if they are at a standard where they have the ability and the skills to read independently. As part of their weekly homework, children must record that they have read at home at least three times a week (10-15 minutes), and we ask that you sign their homework diaries to confirm this. Children will receive a reading dojo point each time they record their reading. In addition to independent reading, children will be taught reading strategies during guided reading, which will aid their comprehension skills and help prepare the Year 6 children in our class for the SATs reading test in May.

P.E.

P.E. will be on a Thursday afternoon and this year, Year 5&6 will be going swimming on a Friday morning for the first half term. Children must bring their PE kit with them to change into on a Thursday but can wear their PE kit if they wish for swimming on a Friday. Long hair must be tied back (as it should be for school in general) and children are not permitted to wear earrings for P.E. Children need to be able to remove earrings themselves before the start of the lesson and be able to put them back in on their own after. If your child cannot do this, then they need to be removed before they come to school.

Water bottles

It is very important that all children have water bottles in school every day. Children will take their water bottles home every Friday and must bring them back to school the following Monday.

If you have any concerns regarding your child please do not hesitate to contact me - firstly via ClassDojo or I am also available via email (louise.carbert@carnforthprimary.lancs.sch.uk).

Thank you for your continued support.

Louise Carbert

Y5/6 class teacher & Curriculum Lead