



Seals Class Newsletter

AUTUMN Term 2025



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! Hope you all had a wonderful Summer and enjoyed the sunshine! Firstly, thank you very much for all the lovely presents and cards you gifted us at the end of term. We were very grateful.

We have lots of exciting things planned for the Autumn term and we kick things off with our topic -

‘Castles and Dragons’

We will also be exploring the Christian value of ‘courage’ with Seals this term and finding links through the whole curriculum. This year Mrs. Hinchley will continue to teach on Mon/Tues and Mrs Mugglestone on Wed/Thurs supported by Mrs Maynard all week with Mrs Chamberlain joining on Fridays.

Welcome meeting - 9am on Thursday 4th September

We would like to explain details about the general organisation for Y1/2, including clarification of the homework, spellings and the new BIG maths tests.

Home-School Records

Please ensure that your child brings in their Home-School Record booklet every day. This is for you to record the reading at home as the teachers have their own records of reading. We will record new reading books and spellings. If you have any urgent messages, please email the school email address or add a post-it note to the front of the HSR. Please don't pass on messages at the gate.

Please note, each child has their own log in and password in their home school record for spelling shed.

Reading

Please try to read with your child for at least 5 minutes a day, making time to discuss the text and your child's thoughts about what they have read. Spending these 5 mins a day reading with your child is the greatest gift you can give them. Please let us know what you have read via comments in the Home-School Record and make sure you tick the box if your child has finished their school reading book so that we can change their books. We aim to change Y1 books on Thursdays and Y2 on Mondays.

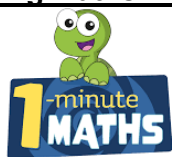
PE Kit

This term children will have 2 shorter PE lessons on **Fridays and Wednesdays**. Please make sure that your child comes to school in appropriate kit on these days as PE may be outside, so it's best to have shorts underneath a warm pair of jogging bottoms for all weather eventualities. **Also any watches or earrings need to be removed or taped before school.** Every child should also always have a basic indoor PE kit in school, including spare socks and trainers. It would also be helpful if they have a spare pair of pants in their PE bag. We will not be using the waterproofs for every outdoor play at break and lunch this year so please ensure you child has a **waterproof coat in school each day**. If you wish to send in spare clothes for your child to keep on their peg, you are more than welcome to but this should not be necessary as the children will have indoor play of the rain is torrential. Please NAME EVERYTHING!

Spellings

A list of spellings are included in the HSR. They can also be found on Spelling Shed. Please practise these in random order as often as possible – little and often really is the key and the Spelling Shed provides an easy opportunity to practice in a fun way. Tests will be done on **FRIDAYS**, on the sheets in the back of the Home-School Record so please check here for your child's test.

Big Maths – Mental Maths at Swinford



Building fluency recalling key facts in Maths is vital to enabling confident & efficient Mathematicians. In your child's Home School Record, you will find a new sheet for practice of mental Maths Skills at home, which we hope will be a fun & easy way for children to build their skills and share some learning with you at home. Each week or fortnight, your child will have a different focus for recall of facts, in line with the expected skills for their age. Children should be encouraged to beat their previous score for that focus on the 'White Rose Maths 1 Minute Maths' app which is available to download for free on most devices. The children will have a quiz each week in school where scores will be recorded on the HSR sheet. There is no target score, we would just like the children to improve on their score from previous tries to increase their fluency. We do not need you to record any scores in the HSR but children could record scores in their Homework Book if they wish to keep track.

Please encourage your child to practice at home on WRM 1 Minute Maths App with the aim to improve their score each time they have a go. You can also support your child in other ways if you wish by playing games/singing songs/calling facts to answer in the car etc. If your child does not have access to a device at home, they should contact school to support. In Seals class, children will have their quiz on **Thursdays**. Please see the sheet in your child's HSR for details and dates.



Homework

The homework tasks are also slightly different this year. We want you to prioritise reading, spelling and beat it maths practice. The sheet inside the homework book, has a table to record how often your child is completing this vital homework each week. House points will be gained for regular practice of reading, maths and spellings. There is also a choice of creative projects that they can choose from if they wish which can be stuck into the homework books. Help them to cover their books with paper to make them individual and personal. Make sure their names are clear to read. The homework needs to be returned by **Monday 13th October**.

Following that, if you have any questions or concerns, please arrange to come and discuss them with us.

Many thanks,

Mrs Hinchley, Mrs Mugglestone and Mrs Maynard.