

SEPTEMBER 2024

Welcome back! I hope you've all had an enjoyable Summer Break - I've been looking forward to seeing all of you, and beginning our new journey learning together in Year 5 + 6 as part of Ruby Class. Thank you to all of you at home who have allowed pupils to bring in artefacts from the First and Second World War so far. We have really enjoyed looking at them and sharing the stories behind these precious objects.

In Creativity, we will explore the causes and main events of the Second World War. Pupils will find out how Britain prepared itself for war and the war's impact on civilian life. Also, pupils will learn about the Battle of Britain and how it proved to be a key turning point for the Allied Powers. They will also hear about Anne Frank and discover what her story tells us about the treatment of Jewish people by the Nazi Party. Furthermore, pupils will research the causes and consequences of the end of the Second World War and investigate the legacy of the war in Britain. We will also look at how the 'Make Do and Mend' campaign aided the War Effort, and develop our darning and stitching skills in Design and Technology. Later in the term, we will be studying Buxton, as part of our Local History unit.

In Science, we will be investigating how light behaves, travelling in straight lines from a source or reflector, into the eye. Pupils will explore how we see light and colours, and phenomena associated with light, including shadows, reflections and refraction. We will also be learning about Evolution and Inheritance, how living things on Earth have changed over time and how fossils provide evidence for this. Pupils will learn how characteristics are passed from parents to their offspring and how variation in offspring can affect their survival, with changes (adaptations) possibly leading to the evolution of a species.

Snacks + Water

Key Stage 2 children can bring in their own fruit from home to eat at break time. Milk can be also purchased via the Cool Milk Scheme.

Please send your child in with a named bottle of **water** each day. No juice or squash please.

Classroom Organisation

Ruby Class will be taught by myself (Mr Downings) with support from our brilliant Teaching Assistants, both in class lessons and during interventions sessions, which will give extra targeted support to pupils. I am looking forward to continuing to help your child to make progress this year.

This year, we will be using the White Rose Maths scheme. Although all pupils share the same teaching input at the beginning of the lesson and have opportunities for working and discussing ideas together with other pupils in class, activities and tasks are carefully adapted to allow pupils to work on their individual Year Group objectives. Pupils will also participate in a daily Mathematical Fluency session in order to develop their recall of mathematical facts and calculation strategies. Please continue to support your child in developing their mental arithmetic skills at home – particularly their fluency in multiplication and division.

School Uniform

Please ensure that all clothes are labelled with your child's name, so that it can be identified easily and that appropriate black footwear is worn in school. Due to the autumnal weather, pupils should also wear a coat to school as outdoor learning is an integral part of our Curriculum.

PE

This year, PE sessions for Ruby Class will be on Wednesday and Friday. Sessions will take place outside where possible. Children should attend school in their PE kits on these days. Please ensure that they are dressed appropriately for the weather and that their footwear is suitable for physical activity outdoors. Children with long hair must also be able to tie it up for PE, and all earrings must be removed or taped up by pupils themselves.

Reading

Pupils need to have their reading book and Reading Diary in school every day. We recommend that children read their reading books at home for 15 minutes each day. Please encourage your child to sign or write in their diary after they have read.

A member of staff will check their records each week. Their new Reading Records this also contain a list of the compulsory spelling words from the National Curriculum.

Children will also have teacher led Guided Reading sessions each day and will be heard reading regularly in school on group and individual texts.

Communicating With School

Please don't hesitate to get in touch via email at: mark.downings@bishoppurglove.derbyshire.sch.uk if you have any questions or concerns.

Art Shirts

It would be very helpful if you could provide an old shirt or t-shirt (that your child could keep in their bag in school) to put over their uniform to help protect it when we are using paint and other messy resources!

Homework

Pupils will complete weekly homework tasks using CGP Year 5 + 6 Revision Guides. Homework will begin from the start of October.

Year 5 + 6 Residential Visit

The Year 5 + 6 Residential Visit is always a massive highlight of the children's time here at Bishop Pursglove. This year's visit will be at Hollowford Centre in Castleton, during the Summer Term. I will look forward to giving you more details about this later in the school year.

Key Dates

Thursday 12th September – Tideswell War Memorial Visit
Monday 16th September – Derbyshire Fire Safety Talk with Pupils
Thursday 19th September – Year 5 + 6 Football Festival (Bishop Pursglove)
Monday 23rd September – KS2 SATS Parent and Pupil Workshop (Year 6 Only)
Thursday 26th September – Harvest Festival (School Hall)
Monday 4th November – Inset Day (School Closed to Pupils)

YEAR 6 INFORMATION

Secondary School Applications

It's now time to start thinking about which Secondary School your child will go to (the deadline for applying is towards the end of October). Dates of Open Events at local Secondary Schools are as follows:

Lady Manners School

Thursday 3rd October 2024: 4.30pm-6.30pm

Hope Valley College

Thursday 26th September 2024: 5.30pm-7.30pm (Book Attendance Online via Hope Valley College Website)

Please continue to check each Secondary Schools' own website for further details as dates/times may be subject to change.

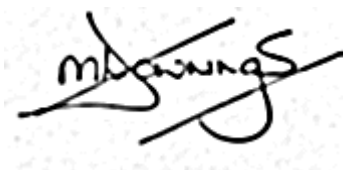
KS2 SATS Assessments 2025

At Bishop Pursglove, we realise that some children may start Year Six considerably more anxious about some of the challenges that lie ahead such as KS2 SATS (which will be held from Monday 12th May 2025 to Thursday 15th May 2025 inclusive) and their transition to Secondary School later in the year. However, Year Six also brings lots of opportunities for children to grow in self-confidence, take on new responsibilities and have fun along the way. If you, or your child have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Craig, Mrs Hall or myself.

Year 6 Pupils and Parents are invited to a KS2 SATS Workshop on Monday 23rd September at 3.45pm. This workshop will be an opportunity to ask questions and find out information about these tests. It will also enable you to have a look at some of the different resources that are available both at home and in school in order to help children become more confident in demonstrating all of the fantastic knowledge and skills that they have learnt throughout their time in Primary School over the last four years.

Once again, I look forward to working with you and your child throughout this new school year.

Kind Regards



Mr Downings – Ruby Class (Year 5 + 6) Teacher

