Sempringham Class – September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Sempringham! I hope you have all had a lovely summer and are ready and raring to go for the new school year. I am excited to get to know you all (for those that I haven't previously taught!) and get stuck into some exciting learning.

The school day will be the same as last year. The gates will open at 8:30 and registration will start at 8:45. We will be **starting lessons at 8:45** so punctuality is vitally important. At home time the gates will open at 3:10 and the children will be dismissed at 3:15. If anyone different is collecting your child, please ring and let the office know.

Your child will need to bring **a named water bottle every day** which will be kept in the classroom. Your child **does not need to bring a pencil case** to school as we will provide all the resources they need in the classroom. Correct uniform (including school shoes) and PE are important so please refer to the policy if you are unsure what your child needs.

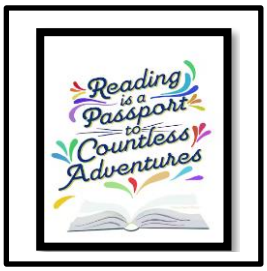
Curriculum

Our topic this term in Geography is Rivers. We will learn how water circulates around the cycle, understand how rivers are formed and their features. We will also conduct some research on the River Nile, and river pollution. As well as learning lots of river related terms such as deposition, evaporation, condensation and erosion. In Science we will be learning about 'States of Matter'. We will know the difference between a solid, liquid and a gas, and how each can be identified. We will also be conducting some interesting investigations! Our focus text in English is The Wind in the Willows – we will be using this text to inspire narrative work.

Homework

Homework will be given out weekly, on a Friday, and should be handed in the following Wednesday at the latest. There will be two pieces of homework (GPS and Maths) as well as spellings (these will be stuck in their Reading Diaries). **Spelling tests will take part on a Friday.** Dojo points will be given for homework and spellings.

Children who do not hand on their homework by Wednesday morning will complete their homework during their Wednesday breaktime, as we go through the homework together on a Wednesday afternoon to address any difficulties or misconceptions.



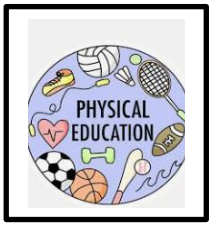
Reading

Reading is a vital, key part of your child's learning. We are continuing to use the AR reading system where the children will take a comprehension test once they have completed their book. Please sign your child's Reading Diary when

they have read. This doesn't always need to be to you – independent reading is also fine. The **Reading Diaries need to be in school every day** and will be checked each morning by Mr Edwards. **We expect your child to read *at least 3 times a week at home.*** Your child will receive Dojo points for reading at home and completed AR tests.

Children who do not read at home a minimum of 3 times by Friday morning will read during their Friday breaktime.

PE



PE lessons will take place on a Tuesday and Wednesday. Please ensure the children have the correct PE kit – white t-shirt, navy/black shorts and trainers or pumps. PE kits should be brought into school and left in lockers until half term. Earrings should be removed for PE and long hair should be tided back.

We are looking forward to seeing you all and hearing about your child's summer holiday!

Kind regards,

Miss Beck and Mr Edwards

Welcome to Ramsey! This will be a busy but, I hope, a great year, where you will have many more opportunities to show your strengths. With this comes greater responsibility and expectations but I know we will all rise to the challenge!

Curriculum

We start the year with a geography focus, learning some map-reading skills and how land is used in our local area. Our science topic this term is Evolution and Inheritance, where we will be learning about the works of people such as Mary Anning, Charles Darwin and Albert Wallace. In RE, we will be looking at whether worldviews change over time. In art, we will be looking at the history of raffiti and artists such as Banksy and discussing whether graffiti is really art or vandalism. Our PSHE focus this term is about staying healthy, with a focus on physical health, and in PE, we will be learning the skills of netball and rugby.

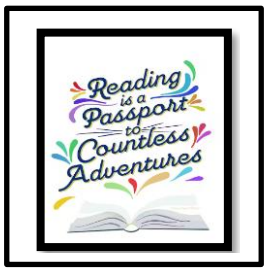
Homework

Homework will be given out on a Friday and will be due in the following Wednesday. It will compose of one piece of English (usually a grammar focus) and one piece of maths. It is expected that each piece should take approximately 20-30 minutes to complete. If you don't understand the homework or are finding it difficult, please let me know as soon as possible so that I can help. If homework is not handed in on time, it will need to be completed during a lunchtime.

In addition, there will be weekly spellings, which will be tested on Fridays. Spellings will need to be learned throughout the week so that they are retained. We recommend the 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' method at least 3 (but preferably 5) times each week. You also need to know the meaning of the words you are learning so that you can then use them in your writing.

Reading

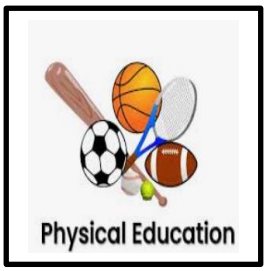
Please use the reading diaries for any reading completed at home. When completing the reading journal, please make sure you include the page numbers so that we can see whether the you are reading for the appropriate amount of time (20-30 minutes or a **minimum** of 15 pages each day is recommended as the amount required for children to make maximum progress in their reading). The expectation we will be setting in Year 6 is that the children read a minimum of **50 pages** over the week. Remember, this does not need to be reading with an adult every time (although it would be great if you did!) and it can be spread over the week. You can write down the pages you have read to save time but it must be signed by an adult. Dojos will be given each time you read at home and the more you read, the more



progress you will make in. Remember, you can check whether the books you have at home fit in your Accelerated Reader band by checking on the AR website – please ask if you need help to do this. You should read books at the top end of your book band to make the best progress and be able to understand what you are reading. Extra dojos will also be awarded for each book quiz successfully completed, so it is important that you understand what you are reading.

PE

PE lessons will take place on **Mondays** and **Fridays** (Please note, this second PE slot may change if we start swimming sessions – more information will be sent out shortly). You will need a full PE kit, consisting of white t-shirt, black/navy shorts and trainers (these are better for outdoor PE). Please note, earrings cannot be worn for any PE. If you struggle to remove your earrings by yourself, you will need to take them out in the morning and then put them back in again when you get home. It is fine for anyone who has had their ears pierced for more than 6 weeks to remove the earrings for short periods without the hole closing. Children with long hair must have it tied back for PE lessons so please bring hair ties or similar with you; thick plastic headbands and hairclips are not appropriate for tying hair back for PE.



11+ Tests

These will take place on Friday 12th (verbal reasoning) and 19th (non-verbal reasoning) September in the hall. Only those registered with Boston High School or Boston Grammar School will be taking the test. Any children registered with Spalding Grammar School should have been sent information about the times and location of their tests. I will be running a few lunchtime sessions to prepare for the tests, starting the week of 8th September.

Class Dojo

The class is set up on Class Dojo at this present time and I would prefer all messages to go via this format wherever possible although the reading diaries can be used for those times where this is not possible. We will be checking both regularly and will endeavour to reply to any messages promptly. If, however, you need to pick your child up early for any reason or if you send the message after lunchtime, please also phone the school office as it is not always possible for me to read messages while I am teaching. Anything sent in the evenings (after 6pm) or at the weekend will be responded to the next working day.

Using Class Dojo for messaging will be replaced by Bromcom/MCAS this year. All important messages and letters will also be shared using Bromcom/MCAS as this is the system that all LAAT Trust schools use. Class Dojo will still be used to record behaviour dojos which are given to the children for completing homework and good behaviour.

We are all looking forward to the new academic year and the challenges and experiences ahead and we hope you are too. We will be working hard but we will hopefully be having fun at the same time!

Kind regards,

Miss Ratcliff, Mrs Dunbavand and Mrs Parnell