



YEAR 5 Swifts

Class Teacher: Mrs Breslaw

Learning Support Assistant: Mrs Reilly

Important diary dates and reminders

Bank Holiday- Monday 11th May

Hooke Court Residential- Monday 11th May – Friday 15th May

Auction of Promises- Saturday 16th

May Half term- Monday 25th May – Friday 29th

Monday 1st June- INSET day

Year 4 residential: As in past years, I'll be leading the Year 4 residential, taking the Swallows to Henley Fort for a few days. This will run from 24th – 26th June. We held the parent info meeting yesterday, so I wanted to make you aware of the situation, rather than have you hearing bits on the Grayspevine. In my absence, the Year 4 class teachers, Mrs Coult and Mrs Fairhurst will teach Swifts and they'll be working off my planning so there'll be no deviation from the Year 5 curriculum.

KIRF (Key Instant Recall Facts): Next term our KIRFs are: *I can recall metric conversions*. I have added these to the end of the newsletter. Please support your child with the learning of these key facts

Weekly Meal Choices: A gentle reminder to please ensure you book your child's meal choices for the week via Arbor. Ideally, we'd love for you to be able to book for a half-term or even a whole term in advance. However, having your weekly meal choices confirmed ahead of time will really help us manage the week more smoothly and reduce last-minute changes.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Class update

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a busy and productive week for Swifts, with sunshine pouring into the classroom.

In Maths, we began our new unit on Decimals. The children have been working confidently to build on their prior knowledge, using known facts to add and subtract decimals within 1 and exploring complements to 1. They have also practised adding decimals with the same number of decimal places. A great start to the unit, with lots of focus and determination on display!

In English, we have continued to use Beowulf as a stimulus for our writing, and the children have really enjoyed immersing themselves in this epic tale. This week, Swifts focused on writing vivid descriptions, bringing scenes to life with rich vocabulary. The children carefully used expanded noun phrases and prepositional phrases to add detail, alongside powerful adjectives, precise verbs and well-chosen adverbs. We also encouraged the use of varied sentence openers, figurative language and descriptive

imagery to enhance atmosphere and engage the reader. The results were impressive, with writing that felt exciting and detailed.

Wishing you a restful Bank Holiday weekend,
Mrs Breslaw

Home learning:

Spellings

Rule: Words that are homophones

Please complete the assignments set on Spelling Shed and enjoy playing the games!

Green- all spellings	Orange- any 8 spellings	Red- any 6 spellings
aisle		
isle		
allowed		
aloud		
altar		
alter		
ascent		
assent		
farther		
father		

Maths- Area and length

I have set a number of tasks on Mathletics to consolidate their understanding of Area and measurement.

English- Describing a Beowulf Monster Using Superlatives and Kennings

I would like the children to write a detailed, descriptive paragraph using superlatives, kennings, and ambitious vocabulary inspired by Beowulf by Michael Morpurgo.

Superlatives

Superlatives show the most or least of something e.g., strongest, fiercest, most terrifying, least merciful.

Kennings

Kennings are two word phrases often used in Anglo Saxon poetry to describe someone or something e.g., bone-crusher, sea-stalker, gold-guard, shadow-walker.

Choose ONE character:

- The Sea Hag
- Grendel
- The Dragon of the Deep

Your Task

Write a descriptive paragraph about your chosen monster.

You should:

- Use at least 5 superlatives
- Include at least 2 kennings
- Show your understanding of the monster from the text
- Bring together everything you have learned in English during this unit

Your paragraph could describe:

- The monster's appearance
- Their power or strength
- How frightening or dangerous they are
- How they compare to Beowulf or other warriors

Example sentence starters (use if helpful):

- Grendel was the most vicious night stalker the Danes had ever feared...
- The Sea Hag, the ocean's deadliest shadow, lurked in the darkest waters...
- The Dragon of the Deep was the greatest threat Beowulf ever faced, a fire breather feared across the land...

Challenge

To push your writing even further:

- Include one 'most/least' superlative
- Use powerful adjectives and noun phrases
- Add one sentence inspired by the tone of a legend or myth
- Compare the monster directly to Beowulf

Example:

Even Beowulf, the bravest hero of all, trembled before the fire serpent, the most destructive creature ever to rise from the dee



Key Instant Recall Facts

Year 5 – Summer 2

I can recall metric conversions.

By the end of this half term, children should know the following facts. The aim is for them to recall these facts **instantly**.

Mass

1 kilogram = 1000 grams

Length/Distance

1 kilometre = 1000 metres

1 metre = 100 centimetres

1 metre = 1000 millimetres

1 centimetre = 10 millimetres

Capacity

1 litre = 1000 millilitres

They should also be able to apply these facts to answer questions.

e.g. How many metres in $1\frac{1}{2}$ km?

Top Tips

The secret to success is practising **little** and **often**. Use time wisely. Can you practise these KIRFs while walking to school or during a car journey? You don't need to practise them all at once: perhaps you could have a fact of the day. If you would like more ideas, please speak to your child's teacher.

Look at the prefixes – Can your child work out the meanings of *kilo-*, *centi-* and *milli-*? What other words begin with these prefixes?

Be practical – Do some baking and convert the measurements in the recipe.

How far? – Calculate some distances using unusual measurements. How tall is your child in mm? How far away is London in metres?