



Autumn Term 2021

Welcome

Welcome back to an exciting new school year! We are really glad you are all back with us after a strange end to last term. We hope you have had a lovely summer break and are ready for a busy year. We welcome our Year 5 children into Upper School. For our Year 6 children, they are embarking on their final year with us at St Osyth and what an exciting one we are about to begin!

Our Autumn Term curriculum

This term's topic is 'Ancient and Awesome?' Our children will be learning all about the life, times and legacy of the Ancient Greeks. We will learn about Ancient Greek society, events of Ancient Greek civilization, myths and the Olympics. We are planning to have an Ancient Greek re-enactment day which will include fresco painting, pottery making, carving and a recreation of the Festival of Dionysus.

The year ahead

We have a busy and exciting year ahead of us. In Upper School, we understand that every child is different and has strengths and interests in a variety of areas. We support children on every step of the way and expect children to try their very best. We offer after school academic clubs, homework club on a Friday lunch time and a team who are willing to help with any concerns or worries that your child may have. We understand that the step up from Middle School to Upper School is a big one and children may require additional support; we have the Learning Hub for this. We run daily intervention programs to support reading, writing and maths, suited to your child's needs. Year 6 children will be sitting their end of Key Stage assessments (SATs) in May, which we will discuss in our meeting with you at the start of the term. We also run SATs workshops for parents later in the academic year.

Wider experiences

Upper School life fosters independence and personal growth. From the start of the year, we are preparing Year 6 children for their transition to secondary education. For our Year 5 children, more ownership is given to learning. We pride ourselves on the opportunities children are presented with and the visitors who enrich our children's learning journeys. A vital part of Upper School is our trips. Year 5 have a mini-residential, at Birch Hall Adventures, Pioneer Sailing day and a trip to the St Osyth Priory. Our Year 6 children, will have a trip to a theatre in London and the residential trip to the Isle of Wight. We hope that, given the current situation, all the usual exciting experiences can go ahead as planned.

Home-Learning

Home Learning is an imperative part of your child's learning journey. Children will be given homework wallets, a blue wallet for English and a yellow wallet for mathematics. Home Learning is set every Friday and is handed in during that lesson, the following Friday, when we discuss the Home Learning and ensure that any misconceptions are addressed immediately. If Home Learning is not handed in then your child will complete the missed learning during their lunchtime the same day. Additional copies of Home Learning are in each class and are easily accessible for your child. Children are also expected to read five times a week and log in to Times Table Rock Stars.

Best Regards, The Upper School Team

Other useful reminders

Please ensure that your child **always** has the following items in school:

- Coat (**named**)
- Water bottle (**named**)
- PE kit including plimsolls and an outdoor kit including trainers (**named**)
- Bag for reading book and reading diary and homework folders. Please ensure that this is not too big.

Dates for your diary

Year 5 Birch Hall Residential 9-10th September
Upper School Information Meeting 16th September
Ancient Greek day 5th October
Flu Immunisation 21st October
Half Term Week Beginning 25th October
Non pupil days 1st and 2nd November
Year 6 trip to the West End 15th December

Remember that lots of useful information can be found on our website:

<http://www.st-osyth.essex.sch.uk/>

Our Calendar

<https://st-osyth.essex.sch.uk/calendar/>

Our Newsletters

<https://st-osyth.essex.sch.uk/news/>

Our Curriculum

<https://st-osyth.essex.sch.uk/curriculum-and-classes/upper-school/>

Our Safeguarding

<https://st-osyth.essex.sch.uk/key-information/information-hub/#safeguarding>

