

2026



ELM CLASS NEWS

TERM 3



Happy New Year!

Welcome back! We hope you all had a fun and restful holiday. The children have returned in great spirits, eager to share their holiday news.

We are incredibly proud of the progress the children made last term and the effort they continue to show in their learning. We hope you've had a chance to look over your child's targets, as these will help guide them in taking their learning even further this term.

This week, we've begun some exciting new topics, including our class text Street Child. We're really looking forward to a wonderful term filled with Victorian learning and stuffed toy making!

Please check the learning page to see what else is coming up in Term 3. As always, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes,
The Year 5 Team 😊

THE YEAR 5 TEAM

Class Teachers:

Mrs Leggott
(Thursday, Friday)

Miss Stevens
(Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday)

Class Support:

Mrs Dullam and Miss Skilling

CONTACT US:



Our class email address is as follows:

elms@harcourt.kent.sch.uk

Please use this to get in touch. We will aim to check the inbox at least once a day. If your message is urgent, please contact the school office.



Important Information



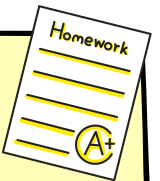
PE DAYS



PE Days are **Tuesday** and **Thursday**.

We aim to do a weekly OUTDOOR PE lesson, even in cold weather, so please make sure your child has suitable clothing for this: long legs, a warm hoodie, gloves and a hat can make a huge difference to your child enjoying and feeling able to fully participate in the lesson.

HOMEWORK



Thank you so much for your continued support at home – it really makes a difference. Weekly homework will be set on **Fridays** and should be returned by **Wednesday**. Completing homework regularly is very helpful in consolidating key learning from school and building confidence.

If your child is unsure how to complete a task, please encourage them to ask one of us before it is due.

We would also appreciate your support in encouraging your child to:

- Read every day
- Practise times tables using Times Table Rockstars (TTRS) or another method
- Review their Term 3 Knowledge Organisers



CLASS REWARDS

The children have been motivated by our reward system of Class Dojos. Last term, many children received a prize and certificate for achieving 200 dojos! We also managed to get a whole class reward for 100 points! We hope to be giving out many more rewards for this next term 😊



DRINKS AND SNACKS

Please ensure that your child has a named bottle full of fresh water every day. We do not have a drinking water supply at our end of the building so, if a child has not brought a drink, it requires a rather long trek to the staffroom and back! We also recommend a healthy snack, such as fruit, for break time.



READING

Regular reading at home makes a big difference to children's progress and confidence. After reading, a short chat or quick activity can really help develop comprehension. You might try:

- **Asking your child to briefly summarise what they've read**
- **Talking about a character's feelings, actions, or choices**
- **Predicting what might happen next and why**
- **Finding new or interesting words and discussing their meanings**
- **Asking questions such as Why do you think that happened? or What was your favourite part and why?**

Thank you for your continued support in helping to build your child's love of reading!



EVENTS

As part of our History topic, we will be bringing learning to life with a Victorian Day on Thursday 12th February. The children are invited to dress as a Victorian child that day (costumes put together from whatever you already have at home are encouraged – please speak to us if we can help with anything!).





LEARNING



English:

This term we will be reading the novel 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. The book tells the story of a child during Victorian times, facing a series of challenges as a result of being left destitute. We will use the book for our daily Book Talk reading sessions, and will also base much of our writing around it. This term we will focus on the genres of diary writing (based on the main character in the book) and non-chronological reports (creating a piece about the Victorian period).

Spelling:

We will continue to use 'Spelling Shed'. This includes a practice activity each morning, introducing the words, exploring any spelling patterns, consolidating the meaning of the words and reviewing previous lists. There is also a spelling test every Friday.

Maths:

This term's main topics will be:

•Multiplication and division

consolidating understanding of written methods to multiply up to 3-digit by 2-digit numbers; using written division to divide up to 4-digit by 1-digit numbers; applying both multiplication and division written methods to problem solving.

•Fractions

multiplying fractions by integers; finding fractions of amounts; finding the whole when given a fraction.

Science:

Our science topic this term is Animals including Humans.

Within this topic we will be:

- Learning about the different stages of the human life cycle.
- Finding out about the development of an embryo, both human and animal.
- Learning about changes during puberty and senior years.

P.E.:

Our PE topics this term are gymnastics and multi-skills.

Art/Geography:

Art/Geography will be taught again in term 4.

History:

This term we will be learning about the Victorian period, including:

- Learning about the life and reign of Queen Victoria.
- Finding out about typical lives of Victorian children, such as schooling, clothing and jobs.
- Researching about some of the challenges faced by Victorians, such as Workhouses.

This will be linked to our class book Street Child, and will include our Victorian Day

French:

Our French lessons this term will cover telling the time to the nearest half hour, knowing the names of buildings and places in a town, and giving directions (e.g. turn left, straight on etc.). We will continue to revisit useful conversational language and previous topics, such as numbers, days of the week, weather and colours.

DT:

Our DT project will be using textiles to make soft toys. The project will include:

- Evaluating examples and making a design
- Learning how to join 2 pieces of felt, including using blanket stitch.
- Looking at the work of some influential designers, such as Chanel and Westwood

Computing

We will develop our coding skills by using Purple Mash Coding and the Microbits. We will also take part in Safer Internet Day.

PSHE

We will be using the Jigsaw scheme of work focusing on 'Healthy Me'

Religious Education:

Our key question is: Green Religion - How and why should religious communities do more to care for the earth.

Music:

We will follow the Charanga Scheme and complete the unit Classroom Jazz 1.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Newsletter dates Term 3 2025-26

5 th January 2026	First day of term
15 th January 2026	Year 6 trip to Folkestone Museum
29 th January 2026	PTFA quiz
6 th February 2026	Fire Safety Workshop
9-13 th February 2026	Children's Mental Health week
10 th February 2026	Internet Safety Day
12 th February 2026	Year 5 Victorian Day
12 th February 2026	Last day of term
12 th February 2026	Valentines Disco
13 th February 2026	INSET day

HAPPY
2026
NEW YEAR