



# Happy New Year!

January 2026

Happy New Year! We hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas holiday. Thank you for all of the kind gifts and cards you gave to the Red Kites team before the holidays: they are very generous and are much appreciated. The children have certainly come back to school fresh-faced and have made an enthusiastic and positive start to the new year and new term.

As explained in the letter Mrs Sterjo sent earlier this week, Mr Gale will be the class teacher on Monday and Tuesdays, Mrs Doran on Wednesdays and Fridays and Miss Johnson on Thursdays. We look forward to working with you and your children, and are excited about the term ahead!

## Curriculum

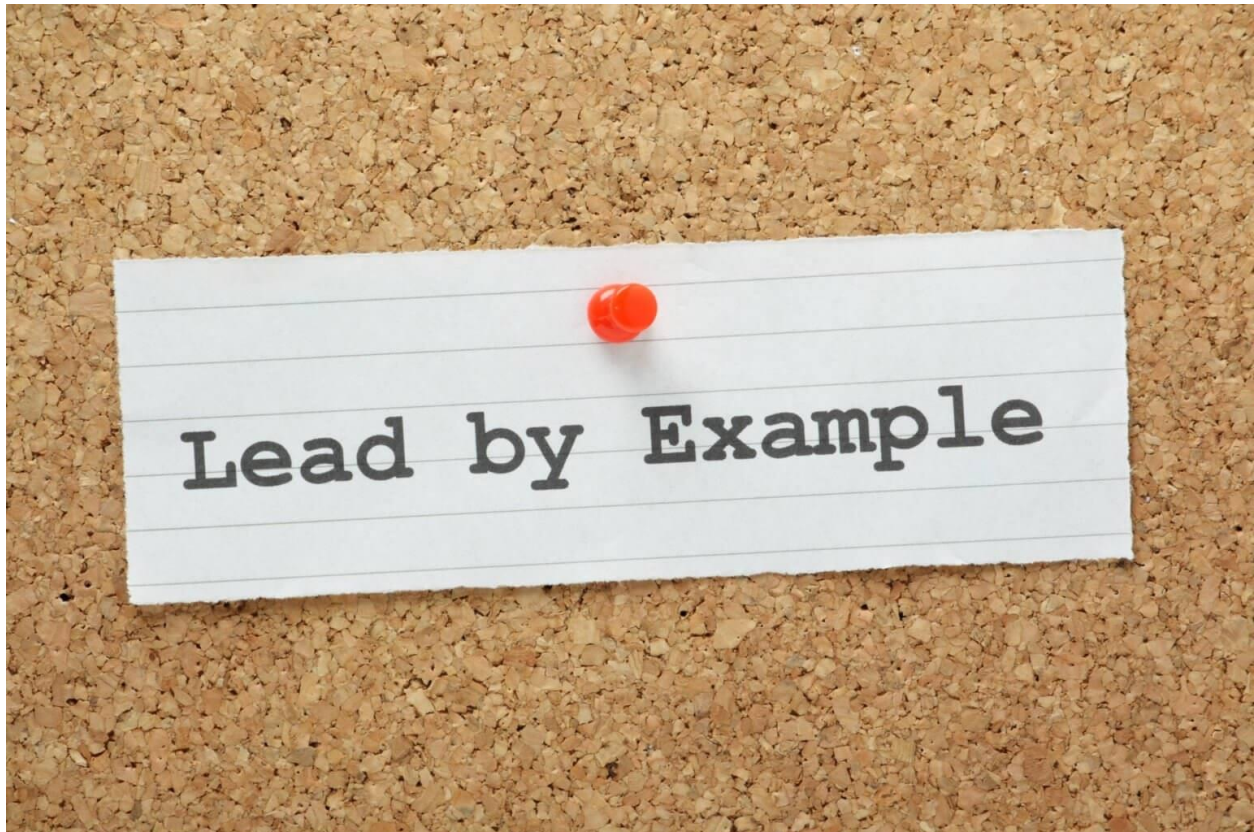
For Term 3 & 4, we will be looking at the Victorians and inventions. There are lots of exciting things to cover - for more details, please visit the class pages by clicking [here](#).

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*If your child has any books or resources that would support our topics this term, then we would love to see them – and if any family members or friends can share expertise in any of these areas, please contact us!*

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## Our expectations



In Year 5, the children are role models for other pupils across the school and we have high expectations for them. It is therefore important that the children:

- Behave appropriately all the time
- Are positive role models
- Take responsibility for their own learning
- Are resilient – we don't give up!
- Embrace challenges and new learning
- Are organised and prepared for the day ahead

We expect all children to show our school values or **Respect, Responsibility and Resilience.**





## Music and PE

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*Ukulele lessons will continue to take place on Thursday afternoons this term with Mrs Andrews.*

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We will have PE on **Wednesday** and **Thursday**.

**Please make sure your child your child comes to school in their PE kit:**

- Trainers ( which are not black, school shoes)
- Black shorts for indoor PE / tracksuit bottoms for outdoor PE
- Red PE top
- Warm jumper (not school jumper)
- An appropriate outdoor / wet-weather coat
- A water bottle
- No jewellery is allowed to be worn in PE lessons
- Hair band as all children with long hair need to tie their hair back

Thank you for your ongoing support with ensuring your child comes into school with a full kit. As long as it is safe to do so, we shall be doing PE whatever the weather so please ensure your child's kit reflects this! On PE days when wet weather is also forecast, it would be helpful to send your child with either a spare school PE kit, or their school uniform.

## Home learning

**Please ensure your child reads daily at home – even if it is independently – although we do ask that they are heard by an adult at least once a week. They should keep a record of what they have read in their reading journals, which should be brought to school each day.**

In addition, Year 5 will be set:

- Spellings on the Spelling Shed website (logins are in the children's homework books) on a weekly basis.
- Children can practise their times table recall using Times Table Rockstars

Optional extras:

ATOM (online maths platform) learning tasks will be set each week and a home learning grid will be posted on the class page for those who would like to do further home learning linked to the class topics.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144

## End-of-day arrangements

Please let us know via email ([redkites@watlington.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:redkites@watlington.oxon.sch.uk)) if someone different will be collecting your child- you can also phone the office before 3pm. If your child is walking home independently we need written permission from you (if you already gave written consent last term, you do not need to do this again).

## Important dates

**Whole school oracy event:** Wednesday 21st January at 2.30

**Rabbi visiting KS2:** Thursday 29th January

**Chiltern Air Museum trip:** Wednesday 25th March (more details to follow)

**Residential:** Monday 8th May – Friday 10th May at Juniper Hall. Find more information [here](#).

Keep in touch!



Please do not hesitate to come and speak to us, at the end of the school day or via the class email.

[redkites@watlington.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:redkites@watlington.oxon.sch.uk)

School office: 01491 612474

Visit us on the web at <https://www.watlington.oxon.sch.uk>