



Achieving the best

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EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER of South Petherton Schools Partnership
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14th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers of Rundell class,

We hope you all had a wonderful and restful holiday and enjoyed some special time with family and friends. As we begin this new term in Rundell Class, we are excited for the learning opportunities and experiences ahead.

Curriculum News

Reading

During the Spring Term, we will continue to strengthen our reading skills by exploring a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts in weekly comprehension lessons and group reading sessions. Please support your child by encouraging regular reading at home and recording each session in their reading record. Children who read at least five times a week will earn the chance to visit our Reading Café at the end of the term, a wonderful reward for their hard work and dedication!

Writing

We're kicking off the term with a wonderful poetry unit inspired by the stunning book *The Lost Words* by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris. The children will begin by exploring poems themed around British birds, before taking a magical turn into the world of mythical creatures. Through *How to Train Your Dragon*, they'll dive into writing diary entries, focusing on using a variety of punctuation and sentence structures to create vivid, engaging writing that really grabs the reader.

Maths

We will focus on developing key mathematical skills, including ordering, comparing, adding, and subtracting decimal numbers. We will also explore area, perimeter, and volume in a range of shapes. In addition, children will learn how to measure angles and calculate angles on a straight line and within triangles. To strengthen their understanding, we will continue to practise arithmetic skills during our weekly arithmetic lessons.

Science

In Science, the children will be learning about evolution and inheritance. They'll explore how living things change over time and why we share certain traits with our parents. The class will also look at how animals and plants adapt to survive, using fun, hands-on activities to deepen their understanding. We'll finish the unit by learning about the scientist Charles Darwin and his important ideas.

Humanities

In our Viking topic, we will explore where the Vikings came from and why they launched their attacks. We will place them on a historical timeline, examine how they earned their fearsome reputation, and consider the lasting impact of their legacy today.

Art

To link with our writing, we'll be studying the beautiful artwork of Jackie Morris — the Welsh illustrator behind *The Lost Words* and many dragon-themed books. The children will learn and practise different watercolour techniques, using these skills to create their own bird illustrations and dragon-inspired artwork.



Computing

We will be learning how to control variables in programming and creating our own games using Scratch.

Music

Year 5 will be learning the ukulele and Year 6 are using music technology to create soundtracks for videos.

French

Children will be furthering their understanding of French culture by learning about famous landmarks in Paris. Using their knowledge of verbs and adjectives, they will design a leaflet in French encouraging people to visit.

PSHE

In PSHE this term, our topic is *Dreams and Goals*. The children are learning how to set their own personal learning goals and think about the steps they need to take to reach them. They're also exploring real-world issues that matter to them and discovering that talking about their worries is a healthy way to cope. As we work through the unit, the class learn how teamwork can help us achieve more and make a positive difference in the world. They're also practising how to accept praise and recognise their own achievements.

Weekly reminders

PE DAYS	Wednesday and Friday		
Reading homework	At least 3 times a week, if children read 5 times within a week, they will be rewarded with a stamp in their reading records and celebrated at key milestones with the reading café. Please help them fill in their reading record.		
Homework books (Year 6)	To go out on a Tuesday	Hand in on a Tuesday	Children will mark in class.
Homework sheets (Year 5)	To prepare year 5 for year 6 homework expectations, year 5 will receive 1 small piece of homework a week. This will be on a rotation of grammar, Maths revision or a short reading comprehension. (In and out on a Tuesday).		
Spellings (Year 5 and 6)	Weekly spellings given out on a Friday. Tested the following Friday.	Children can practise their spelling patterns in their book or on the spelling frame online app.	

As ever, if you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch. You can email the school office to book an appointment with us. We are around at the end of the school day on most days for a quick chat. If there is something urgent that you need us to know in the mornings, please speak with the adults on the gate who can pass on any information to us straight away.

Kind regards,

Mrs Stell and Mrs Wheatley

