

# Mandarin Newsletter Letter 2019-20

We would like to welcome our new members of Mandarin Class - Reggie and Noah, and welcome back our Year 5 and Year 6 children - we hope that you've had a great summer break!

Like last year, Mandarin class will be taught by Miss Griffiths on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning, followed by Miss Oliver on Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday. Mrs Griffiths will be our Teaching Assistant each morning and will also carry out intervention sessions on Tuesday and Friday afternoons with small groups.

The most important thing for us as a team is that your child feels happy and safe at school. If you have anything you would like to share with us, such as achievements from home or memorable experiences, we are always happy to hear or read about them, in addition, if you have any concerns or worries, please don't hesitate to come and see us.

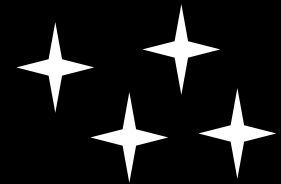
Our SeeSaw class from last year will roll over to this year and therefore, apart from any new pupils, you will not need to re-register your account - we will use this regularly to remind you about class events and share your child's successes with you. Please do not upload any photographs that we send onto any form of social media. If you do not wish for your child to be photographed with other members of Mandarin on SeeSaw then please let us know ASAP otherwise we are assuming that you are happy for this to happen.

We have attached our class timetable so that you can see what we will be getting up to each day. Here is a short summary of different aspects of Mandarin life... including a few changes for this year...



Our First  
Topic:

'Stargazers'





### Literacy and Spellings

Our daily literacy lessons combine reading, writing, grammar, punctuation and speaking/listening. They are linked to our topic work - our first topic is "Stargazers" which we are sure that you will find really interesting. Spellings will be taught two times per week. You will be assigned a spelling group and during the three spelling lessons you will have chance to practise the spellings for the weekly test - the expectations for spelling in Year 5 and 6 is high, therefore it is also essential to work on them at home too. Spellings will be tested on a Friday morning and you will be given the lists for the half term during the first week.

### Maths and Times Tables

We will have daily Maths lessons where children are taught within their year groups using a rotation system. During each lesson, each group will have independent tasks to complete, teacher led group work and challenges. Homework will be given out on a Friday based on the work undertaken that week. This is to be handed in the following Wednesday.

We cannot emphasise enough the importance of learning times tables in Mandarin class. The curriculum expectations are extremely high and require children to be fluent in all times tables by the end of Year 4 (up to 12x12, with rapid recall). Each week we will complete a speed grid involving all of the times tables. We will also continue to use TTrockstars in class and will set homework battles based on this! Last year our class was the top of the leaderboards within a 15 mile radius - this is something we hope to hold on to but it will require lots of hard work from all of you!

### PE

Mandarin Class have PE on Monday and a Tuesday with Miss Griffiths and our Premier Education team member. It is essential that your PE kit is always in school and has suitable clothing in it for the weather conditions. All clothes must be labelled as our lost property grows at a rapid level! No jewellery should be worn and if you have pierced ears then you will be asked to remove them or cover them with your own tape. Hair that is long enough to be tied up must be (both boys and girls). Can I please encourage the PE kit that is sent in to be a

blue or white t-shirt and blue or black shorts/jogging bottoms. Trainers must be in school as pumps are not suitable for PE sessions on the field.

### Topic and Topic Homework

Our first topic is a science based topic, entitled "Stargazers", where we will be learning all about our solar system, the moon and our planet. We have been looking into getting a visit from a planetarium, learning about all the different planets and how the angle of the earth creates seasons and our world's climate

We are trialling a slightly different approach to our topic homework this half term. Children need to do **one** larger piece of homework around "Space". This could be-

- a power point presentation using the web, non-fiction books or magazines to show to the class
- a large poster on space facts
- make your own space helmet using junk materials
- 3D model of the solar system
- keep a Moon diary over the course of September, drawing the different shapes of the moon each night.

As this is a reduction in the amount of weekly homework, there is an expectation that a certain amount of effort will be put into the chosen project.  
PLEASE HAND IN BY WEDNESDAY 2nd OCTOBER 2019

For homework that is not handed in on the day it is due, an extra day will be given to complete. Any homework that fails to come in will be completed during break/lunch times.

### Stay and Play

Stay and Play will begin in a few weeks time, every Thursday morning between 8.45 and 9.15am. This is not compulsory, but it's a great opportunity to bring your parents into our classroom to play some games.

We are very much looking forward to teaching you all... here's to a fabulous year!

Best wishes,

# The Mandarin Team

**Newton Regis Church of England (VC) Primary School**  
**Miss Griffiths and Miss Oliver – Mandarin Class 2019-20 - Timetable**

	9:00am	9:10am	9:30am	10:45	11:00am	12:05	12:15	1:15pm	1:30pm	1:45pm	2:15pm	2:50pm	3:15
<b>Mon</b> MG	Registration Purple Pen Morning Challenge	<b>Collective Worship</b>	Maths	<b>Break Time</b>	Literacy	<b>Class Reading</b>	<b>Lunch Time</b>	Spelling Tasks	Languages	PE	<b>Home Time</b>		
<b>Tues</b> MG	Registration Purple Pen Morning Challenge		Maths		Literacy			Spelling Tasks	Trockstars/Maths passports			PE	
<b>Wed</b> MG am/KO pm	Registration Purple Pen Morning Challenge		Spelling Tasks		Maths			Literacy	Handwriting	Topic		Singing Assembly	
<b>Thurs</b> KO	Stay and Play Purple Pen		Literacy		Maths			Topic	Class Worship				
<b>Fri</b> KO	Registration Purple Pen Morning Challenge		<b>Achievement Assembly</b>		Spelling Test Literacy			Maths	Topic	RE		Reward Time	