



# Year 5/6 Welcome Letter - September 2024



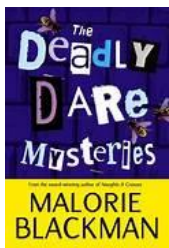
## General Information

A very warm welcome back to school to Year Five and Six – Falcon Class. I hope you have all had a lovely summer and are feeling excited for the new school year. I am looking forward to continue working with previous Falcon families, as well as those of you new to Falcons this academic year, helping your child to learn through meaningful, creative and practical experiences. Supporting us on this learning journey are Mrs Phillips, who will teach the children on a Wednesday, and Mrs Horton, our Higher-Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) who will support in class.

Your support with your child's learning and development is invaluable and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance. As a partnership (home and school), we will be able to help your child reach their full potential and support them to invest in their own learning. Your child, their learning and wellbeing are of utmost importance to all of us. We care about helping them grow as individuals, as a team, as well as their academic progress. This helps them to develop their independence and tackle new challenges with confidence.

Both Miss Mascall and I are excited about facilitating chances for the mixed classes to come together. We will continue to provide opportunities throughout the year for us to join together for collaborative sessions, as well as ensuring the children have time as individual year groups. It is important to us that we create our own class communities as Falcons and Kingfishers, but that we also maintain those links between classes for existing friendships to still flourish.

## Key Information



**Falcon Projects:** There are some fascinating enquiry projects for Falcons this year. We have begun with a book study on one of Malorie Blackman's books 'The Deadly Dare Mysteries.' Malorie Blackman is a fantastic author that writes a range of exciting stories across many genres. I have set the children a challenge to read three of her books this year and their reviews to our reading board. It would be great if you could help encourage this.

Our main enquiry focus this term is on the Ancient Greeks. We will be delving into the conflicts and legacy of this ancient civilisation with the help of an exciting workshop opportunity. This will also link into our art, where we focus on stories told on ancient Greek vases, but add a more modern twist to them. In Science, the children will be investigating light and learning about how it travels.

In Maths, we have started the term developing our place value skills. This includes not only reading, writing and comparing millions numbers, but also rounding, working with negative numbers and showing our understanding of Roman Numerals. We have four Maths lessons a week where we split into

individual year groups. The fifth lesson in the week, we come together as a Falcons class for application work on the areas we are learning. Year 6 are taught by me (Mrs Newman) and Year 5 are taught by Mrs Phillips. This proved very successful last academic year and something we feel is important to continue.

More information on our enquiry projects in Falcons can be found on the school website. Please do also check out and feel free to comment on pictures and videos of Falcons' learning on Class Dojo. Your engagement and support means a lot.



**Trips and Events:** We are very excited to offer a brilliant whole day workshop for Falcons and Kingfishers on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October. This will involve drama, arts and crafts, storytelling, artefact handling and exploration etc linked to our project on the Ancient Greeks. The cost of this experience is £9.50 per child. This is a fantastic and interactive opportunity that the children wouldn't be able to experience in the same way at a museum. However, in order for this to run, we ask that parents **pay the £9.50 by Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October through School Gateway** for this experience to go ahead.



**Uniform:** As role models for younger children, it is important that Falcons set a good example. Please ensure that your child is wearing the appropriate clothing and footwear. It is also important that children have coats in daily.

For those children who have their ears pierced, it should be **plain studs**, which will need to be removed or covered with tape during PE. Other than a watch or medic alert bracelet, there should be **no other jewellery / bands / accessories**. Any child with longer hair needs to have their hair tied back; this is for safety. In addition to our standard school uniform, you may wish to provide your child with an oversized shirt to use as an Art apron. Please see the school website for a reminder on our uniform.



**PE:** We have now moved to having the children come into school in their PE kits on the days of their PE. This allows us to have longer for our sessions and it helps with the logistics of having the boys and girls change separately. For Autumn, these sessions will take place on a **Wednesday and Friday**. Due to the time of year, children may wish to wear leggings / joggers and a plain dark coloured jumper / hoodie.



**Meetings:** I think it is important that there are strong communication links between us. Class Dojo messages, emails and messages through the School Office have been brilliant in helping us maintain those links. Although we will be able to see each other on the playground at the end of the school day, the use of Class Dojo messages and emails will continue to be our main forms of communication. This ensures that I can focus on making sure that children are released safely at the end of the day, as well as supporting children with this transition period. If you need to discuss any issues, concerns or general queries further, then I will be happy to arrange a

phone call or meeting. If you are sharing information about attendance or something for that same day, please contact the School Office. This is because I may not always get the chance to check emails/Class Dojo messages before the end of the school day. Thank you for your understanding and I look forward to working with you throughout the year.



**Behaviour expectations:** Already this term, we have worked on ClassDojo remembering and re-establishing our school rules (Ready, Respectful and Safe) and learning behaviours (Accuracy, Resilience, Collaboration, Independence and Reflection). Children will continue to earn Class Dojo points when they are seen to be **going above and beyond** the standard expectations. This may be in pieces of work they produce; answers they give and how they conduct themselves around the school. Please do interact and encourage your child to interact using Class Dojo. I know the children in previous years have enjoyed this function and have used it respectfully.



### Home Learning:

It is important that children's learning habits get off to a good start. In school, we will establish and maintain a routine to meet all children's needs and promote curiosity, engagement and success. Upper Key Stage 2 is an important stage in your child's primary journey and it is essential that children complete the home learning set. We understand that children have other commitments as well as a need to have time to switch off, which is why we continually review our home learning systems. Although home learning may not be the activity your child would choose to do, it is important that children maintain regular practise of certain skills and that they are prepared for the increase in home learning that happens at secondary school. Below is an overview of the expectations. This will be set every Wednesday and collected/marked on a Tuesday.

<b>Read and Respond (weekly)</b>	Reading is a vital skill and we encourage children to <b>read and respond</b> to their reading at least <b>4 times a week</b> . It will help your child's skills to continue to develop if they could do as many of the responses as possible and vary the type they use.
<b>Spelling (weekly)</b>	One spelling list will be <b>set each week</b> . Children are expected to complete <b>6 games</b> . This is set so that you can see how many games are completed. Children can go over the 6 if they would like to.
<b>Times Tables (weekly)</b>	Children will be expected to complete <b>15 minutes</b> on Times Tables Rockstars <b>a week</b> . This is set so that you can see how many minutes out of the 15 have been completed. Again, children can go over the 15 if they wish.
<b>Additional Tasks (weekly)</b>	Falcons will have an additional task set a week. These will be linked to the learning happening in class or revision that may be needed at certain times of the year.

I am looking forward to meeting you at our Welcome Meeting and working with you throughout the year.

Kind regards,  
*Claire Newman*

### Example Timetable Year 5/6 Falcons Autumn Term

	8.45 – 9.15am	9.15 – 10.45am		11 – 12pm		1 – 1.30pm	1.30 – 3pm	3 – 3.25pm	
Monday CN teaching	Morning task  <b>9.05 – 9.35am Morning Praise</b>	Writing / Reading: Book Study	10.30 – 10.45am KS1 break 10.45 – 11 am KS2 break	Maths	12-1pm children' s lunch	Spelling: Revisit, Explain, Use	History / Geography  <i>Use of computers</i>	<b>Class book:</b> Deadly Dare Mysteries	
Tuesday CN teaching	Morning task  <b>9.05 – 9.35am KS Worship</b>	Writing / Reading: Book Study		Maths		<b>PH HLTA PPA COVER</b> VIPERS Task: Poetry focus	<b>PH HLTA PPA COVER</b> PSHE	<b>PH HLTA PPA</b> <b>Class book:</b> Deadly Dare Mysteries (one chapter plus discussion)	
Wednesday AP teaching	Morning task  <b>9.05 – 9.35am Whole School Worship</b>	RE		Maths		1-1.30pm Spelling: Teach, Model Define and	1.30-2.30pm PE	2.30-3pm SPaG	<b>Class book:</b> Poems from Falcons anthology
Thursday CN teaching	Morning task  <b>9.05 – 9.30am Follow-up worship task</b>	Writing / Reading: Book Study		Maths		<b>PH HLTA SEND COVER</b> Spelling: Apply, Assess, Reflect	<b>PH HLTA SEND COVER</b> Music	<b>PH HLTA SEND COVER</b> French	<b>PH HLTA SEND</b> <b>Class book:</b> Deadly Dare Mysteries (one chapter plus discussion)
Friday CN teaching	Morning task	Art		PE		Maths Y5 & Y6	Science	<b>Life in all its fullness worship</b>	