

4th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Tucana Class! We are excited to begin our learning journey this year, exploring lots of new topics. Here are a few things you need to know:

Topics and Learning

Our topics this year are:

- 'Map Masters'
- 'Flight Through Time'
- 'Journey to the Coast'
- 'Titanic Tragedy'
- 'Places, Peoples and the Planet'
- 'Age of the Aztecs'.

These will be our main learning points this year, where we will be learning a lot about History and Geography through different areas of the curriculum. Through these, we will be learning lots of new things in Art, Design and Technology, Science and Geography. Children also have regular learning of RE, Computing, Music and PSHE lessons.

We have a trip to Earth Trust on 16th September 2026 – more details will follow. We are holding a reading and phonics information meeting for Cygnus and Tucana parents at 5pm on Tuesday 22nd September.

Reading

Children in Tucana class change their library books every Thursday and each book will be recorded in their reading diaries. If children do not finish their book, then they can keep it for longer. When you read with your child please write a comment in their reading record so the adults in the class know what they have read at home. In the front of the reading diary there are some suggestions to support you when reading with your child at home. In Year 1 and 2, children build on their comprehension skills and it is important to continue this learning at home. Reading records will be checked regularly, please aim to read with your child at least 5 times a week.

Spelling

In Tucana we focus on the spelling of Common Exception Words/High Frequency Words children will need to use in their writing. These will be assigned to individual children and checked a week later. If they have learnt their spellings they will be given new words to learn. It is expected that children practise these at home. We will also be learning new spelling rules in both phonics and spelling sessions during the school day.

Phonics

Daily phonics sessions for all Year 1 children will focus on certain sounds in Phase 3 and Phase 5. Phonics books will be given and changed on a Thursday.

Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child has a water bottle labelled with their name in school. They should take it home daily and bring it back the next day. It is helpful if it is transparent so we can monitor how much water children have drunk during the day. Please be aware, we often refill them so if the water bottle is quite full at home time, it is likely to be a refilled bottle.

Milk and Fruit

You can order a cup of milk at break times. Milk is 25p a day and fruit for key stage 1 children is provided. Milk can be booked via MCAS under products. If your child wishes to bring in their own snack, please can this be in a labelled box. It needs to be a healthy snack with no nuts in please and grapes/tomatoes etc need to be sliced in half to minimise choking risk.

Lunch

We are aware that you will have already completed the request for your child's lunch on MCAS. We will take the lunch register to confirm any changes or absences to the information we have. It would be helpful if you could remind your child what they are having for lunch each morning to prevent any child being upset when they go to the lunch hall.

PE

Our PE days will be on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Children must have their PE kit in school on these days. PE kits can stay in school until the end of the term, when they will be sent home. If PE kits get muddy we will send them home to be washed sooner. If your child has a sports club in the week, they will not get changed before pick up at 4pm. They will go home with their uniform in their PE bag. Please make sure this is returned in time for their next PE lesson.

Teachers and Teaching Assistants

I am the teacher in Tucana class and I am very lucky to have Mrs Bowen and Mrs Offord as teaching assistants. Mrs Lawton and Mrs Thomas will teach PE and PSHE on Monday afternoons.

I am really looking forward to a busy year of exciting learning in Tucana Class. If you have any questions at any time, please feel free to contact me via email: tucanahomework@stpeters.oxon.sch.uk and I will respond during normal school hours. If there is anything that needs urgent attention, please contact the school office.

Many thanks,

Mrs Wymbs