

Welcome to Year 5

Meet the team:



Miss Farmer
Elm



Mrs Thomas
Elm



Mrs Lawton
Chestnut



Mrs Luker
Chestnut

Miss Alice Farmer - Elm (Upper School Team Leader)



In 2015, I began my teaching career at Shiphay in Year 5. After two years in Year 5, I then moved abroad to Qatar, where I was teaching the British National Curriculum to Year 2 children from all over the world. I am looking forward to moving back to Year 5, after spending the last 7 years teaching Year 6. I will use all of my knowledge of where children need to get to by the end of their Primary School journey and begin that preparation in Year 5 with an exciting and engaging curriculum. I also look forward to continuing in my roles as Assistant Headteacher, Upper School Team Lead and Art and Maths Lead.

I enjoy teaching all areas of the curriculum, and my subject specialism is Art and Design. I also have a passion for Mathematics, and I have been a Maths Mastery Specialist for the past 5 years, working with other schools across Devon to develop Maths Mastery in their schools.

I enjoy spending my free time dancing and going paddle boarding around the Bay, and I have also been involved in many theatre performances at the Princess Theatre. My experience as a dancer and performer has taught me the importance of working together as a team. I love bringing my skills in performing to leading Performing Arts, which gives me the opportunity to work with children from Year 3 to Year 6.

In my classroom, I value the children as creative individuals with each of them being creative in different curriculum areas. I aim to use this to bring the children together as part of a community. It is important for children to be free to explore what they are learning by asking questions, working collaboratively, having resilience, building independence and being reflective on their practice. By embedding these core values across all of their learning, I believe it will develop the children into strong individuals who are respecting citizens and who are equipped for the future.

Mrs Alex Thomas



I started my career as a Year 4 teacher in Reading in 2015, where I was the PE Coordinator. This is an area of the curriculum that I particularly enjoy teaching, as it allows children to be active and learn creatively. In 2017, I joined Shiphay Learning Academy and have had the pleasure of teaching in Year 5, Year 3, and Year 1/Reception. In 2022, I became the Math Subject Lead. I have always had a passion for mathematics, as I love seeing children beam with pride and excitement when they discover patterns and make connections. These learning opportunities ignite children's curiosity and lead to those wonderful "eureka" moments that make learning so memorable. I strongly believe that such experiences spark a love of learning across the curriculum and help to create lifelong learners.

When I'm not teaching, I enjoy spending time with my family. My eldest daughter is two years old, and my youngest will be turning one very soon. We seem to spend much of our time visiting the zoo or enjoying family walks together.

I am looking forward to getting to know each child in Kingfisher Class (Monday–Tuesday) and Elm Class (Wednesdays), and discovering what makes learning exciting for them. I always strive to create a welcoming and safe environment that encourages children to share and explore their ideas. I believe it is essential that all children feel confident to have a go, take risks in their learning, and develop the skills needed to become

Mrs Charlie Lawton - Chestnut (Mon-Wed)



Since qualifying as a teacher in 2015, I have been lucky enough to teach in all year groups from Reception to Year 5 and I am very much looking forward to heading back to Year 5. Teaching in different year groups has allowed me to see how the children progress and grow along their learning journey and the different connections that they make in their learning along the way. .

I enjoy teaching all areas of the curriculum, particularly English. I also have a keen passion and interest for Geography and Computing. I am currently the Computing subject lead and support the Online Safety Champions and Digital Leaders.

I strongly believe that an engaging curriculum should be accessible to all children in an environment that is both safe and nurturing to each child's needs. In the classroom, I aim to create a fun, friendly, welcoming environment where children feel empowered to learn and feel secure enough to make mistakes in their learning and grow from these. I like to teach in a range of ways that meet many different learning styles so each child can have equal opportunities to access the curriculum.

I am looking forward to supporting the children along their learning journey.

Mrs Katherine Luker - Chestnut (Thur-Fri)



I have been teaching at Shiphay since 1999, primarily in Upper School. My first eight years here were on a full time basis and I am now working part time, on a Thursday and Friday. I am so excited to be working in Year 5 this year. Prior to my time at Shiphay, I taught in a First and Middle school in Poole, where I was responsible for Year 5, 6 and 7 classes.

I thoroughly enjoy my time at Shiphay and relish teaching all aspects of the curriculum. My particular interest is teaching languages . For my teaching degree, I specialised in teaching French at a primary level. The enthusiasm shown by children when learning a modern foreign language is fantastic. They love learning through games and songs and are always willing to have a go. I also love being part of the Performing Arts team which gives me the opportunity to work with children from Year 3 to Year 6. It is wonderful to see them build confidence in themselves and their ideas. The cooperation, teamwork and friendships that develop over the years is fantastic to observe.

Outside of school, my family and I enjoy trips to the theatre and taking advantage of this wonderful area in which we live, with walks on Dartmoor and trips to the many beaches in the south west.

Teaching in Key Stage 2, I am a firm believer in helping children to develop their aspirational values. As they prepare to take the next step in their learning journey, having the confidence to reflect upon their work and think about what they need to do next is a great skill to acquire.

Entrance to Year 5



The entrance to Year 5 is from the field gate. You need to walk down the path to the main door to Upper School.

Library, ABC
and
Cloakrooms



Put your coat, bag
and lunch box in your
cloakroom area.



The Hall at
lunchtime



The Lower Playground and the toilets



The Upper
School
toilets



Chestnut Classroom



Elm Classroom



Learning in Year 5



In Year 5, lessons are exciting and often include fun experiments, creative projects and group activities. We explore interesting units like Ancient Greece, Space and South America. We also go on school trips and attend workshops to help bring our learning to life, such as visits to museums and water filtration sessions. Every day brings something new and helps us grow in knowledge and confidence.

My Thoughts

Please use this space to write down or draw any questions you have or things you want to talk to your teacher about in September.

