

Spring 1 newsletter Year 3.

Welcome back!! I hope you've all had a lovely Christmas. Thank you all so much for the lovely gifts, cards and messages I received for Christmas. I really appreciate it. I can hardly believe that we're a third of the way through the year already. How time flies when you're having fun! I'm excited for the next half term in our year and would like to take this opportunity again to thank you for all you do with your children at home. They're a fab bunch and I'm looking forward to seeing what we can achieve together this half term.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to catch me on the door or drop me a Dojo message.

WHO, WHAT and WHEN

A quick glance guide to who is teaching, what's happening and what your child needs.

Monday - Miss Auty all day. PE kit

Tuesday - Miss Auty all day. No extra equipment needed.

Wednesday - Miss Auty all day. Reading book.

Thursday - Mrs Smith until 11:00. Miss Auty from 11:00 for the rest of the day.

Friday - Mrs Smith all day. Miss Auty's day off. PE kit. Library book. Outdoor learning kit.

REMINDERS

Reading books - children should have these in school each day but definitely on a Wednesday as this is our individual reading lesson. They can be placed in the green box in class whenever they're ready for changing. Reading books should last at least a week and we will look for notes from you as to your child's progress through a book before changing it.

Library - Our library day is Friday. Children should bring their book to school every week even if they wish to keep it for another week. This just helps us to keep tabs on our library stock.

Hair - If hair is long enough to be tied up, my advice is that it should be up for school. It keeps it from flopping in to the children's faces when they work and also helps to keep our creepy crawly friends at bay! Our school colours are black, grey, white and red. Bobbles, clips, hair bands etc should be these colours and modest in style.

Things from home - Children are not permitted to bring toys, games, note books, cards etc from home. We can spend a lot of learning time dealing with issues arising from children swapping such toys etc. We'd really appreciate your support with this. Whilst pencil cases are permitted, I reserve the right to send anything home that is causing a distraction in the classroom.

Watches - watches are great for your child and are permitted in school. This said, they should be simple in design and used for telling the time only. Flashing numbers and light up screens can cause distractions during class. Watches which take photographs are not allowed.

Homework - Homework is due each week. Please send homework on Dojo. It can come on any day - I check Dojo daily and will comment on homework whenever you send it. The next page has homework ideas for this half term. I love seeing the children's work each week and a big thankyou to those families who post homework each week.

PE kit - PE kit is plain back. The school logo is the only emblem permitted.

Snack - Your child is allowed (and encouraged) to bring a healthy snack for morning break. Fruit, veg, yoghurt

CLIFFE CASTLE VISIT.

Please ensure you have all paid via parent pay for our visit. While this is a voluntary contribution, we may have to cancel the trip if we don't have enough payments.

Thank you.

Homework

Welcome back to another busy and exciting half term at school. Here are some homework ideas linked to different areas of the curriculum. As always, if you have another idea you'd like to do, that's absolutely fine. Homework is to be completed weekly and can be on any school curriculum area. Please ensure your homework is uploaded to Dojo. In response to parental feedback, we always try to provide a variety of ideas; some more creative, some more paper based, some which may take longer for those rainy weekends when you've nothing planned and some which are quicker for the really busy weeks.

English - Our genre is narrative for this half term so sentence writing, punctuation and handwriting will all be helpful.

Maths - We're spiralling back round our curriculum and are starting the half term with place value looking at 3 digit numbers. Work on partitioning, ordering, comparing and adding or subtracting multiples of 10 and 100 will be great homework and as always, keep hammering away at those times tables!

Science - Light is our theme. Can you take photographs of light sources in your house? Can you make a list of them? Make a dark den, take a torch and some of your favourite toy figures and play with shadows! What can you discover about how our eyes see?

History - Egypt. Get creative and make a pyramid piece of homework.

RE - "What kind of world did Jesus want?" is our lead question for this half term. Perhaps you could design an advice poster helping people to understand ways to look after our world and the people in it.

Computing - Publishing. Can you do a piece of work on the computer and use your publishing skills to edit and present your work.

Art - Watercolour. We'll be studying Renoir and Monet. What can you find out about these artists? Perhaps you could do a PowerPoint about them or maybe you'd like to have a go at your own painting based on one of theirs.

Other tasks to keep working on regularly:

Reading book, Times tables, Year 3/4 spelling list.

The 1:1 time you can offer your children at home on these things is so valuable to them. We read daily and work regularly on our times tables and spelling at school but that protected time for your child to work on their own with you makes such a difference to their progress and attainment. Thank you to all those of you who do things regularly with your child at home. The time and effort you put in really stands out in class.

Next year, your child will sit the statutory multiplication tables check. This is a national test and from this year, results will be reported upon by the government. We'd love for your child to do well in this test but much more importantly, we'd love for them to confidently know their times tables. They're such a massive tool in all areas of maths and once they have these facts under their belt, they're really flying. 2s, 5s and 10s are the times tables they should already be confident in from Year 2. In Year 3, we learn the 3s, 4s and 8s. By the end of Year 4, children need to know the multiplication and division facts up to 12×12 and speed is really the key. I've given the children suggestions of ways to learn them and we've talked about how repetition is often the best way. We've also talked about putting little notes in key places around the house e.g. by the bathroom light switch, on their bedroom door, on the fridge etc so that every time they see it they have to say the fact. Thank you.