

WOW – what a half term this has been! The children sang, danced and acted their hearts out in our incredible performance of Matilda the Musical and we couldn't have been prouder of their efforts. They have worked so hard all half term in all subjects – they have mastered complex addition and subtraction in Maths and written great stories linked to our class text, The Last Firefox, in English. It was fantastic to speak to you all at Parents Evenings earlier in the half term and share your child's progress. As ever, if you would like a catch up at any point, please just get in touch.

Important Information

Day	Timings of day	
Monday	8.45am – 3.15pm	Mrs Bothma – all day
Tuesday	8.45am – 3.15pm	Mrs Bothma – morning, Miss Eddershaw - afternoon PE day (come to school in PE kit)
Wednesday	8.45am – 3.15pm	Miss Eddershaw – all day
Thursday	8.45am – 3.15pm	Mrs Bothma – all day
Friday	8.45am – 3.15pm	Mrs Bothma – all day PE day (come to school in PE kit)

Expectations

Home Learning

Using their learning logs, all children should be:

- Practicing reading at least 4 times a week using their whole class reading extracts.
- Reading their library book, sharing stories and facts at home and developing their love of books with your help.
- Practicing spelling their statutory spellings and zero tolerance words. We do not have spelling tests but we do teach spelling and focus on children applying these in their writing, which is how we assess their spelling. Reinforcement of their year group words will help your child make progress with this.
- Access Times Tables Rockstars 3 times a week and practice their tables at home.
- Access Bedrock once a week at home, to consolidate what they have been doing in school.

Spelling - There is an expectation for children to be practicing the spellings from their learning logs at home. Last half term, we decided to focus this more specifically and asked you to work on the following 20 spellings (approx. 3 per week), ready for a half termly assessment. The spellings below will be tested on our return to school in January.

accident	actual	address	answer	arrive
accidentally	actually	although	appear	believe
bicycle	breath	breathe	build	busy
business	calendar	caught	centre	century

The spellings for next half term are:

certain	circle	complete	consider	continue
decide	describe	different	difficult	disappear
early	earth	eight	eighth	enough
exercise	experience	experiment	extreme	famous

They can of course practice as many spellings as they want in addition to this from their learning log. If your child has spellings on a SEN support plan, they need to practice these but as part of our ambitious curriculum, we would also like them to access the class spellings too. Thankyou.

PE – This half term, our PE sessions are on a Tuesday and a Friday. Please note that PE uniform is a plain white t-shirt, black or navy shorts/leggings/jogging bottoms, black or navy sweatshirt/fleece and trainers. Coloured clothing must not be worn. Spare PE uniform is available in school if children come in incorrect clothing.

Communication – Feel free to catch me at any point on the playground in the morning if there is anything you'd like to chat about. However, I appreciate this is a busy time and some discussions may need to be private. If you'd rather, call or email the office and I will give you a ring back at a suitable time. Don't ever feel as if this is a problem – I am very happy to do this!

Ways to Help your Child

Please also make sure the children are reading their Whole Class Read text as well as their reading for pleasure book and log both of these in their learning log each week. This text is their challenging age-appropriate reading which has replaced colour-banded books. We performance read and answer questions about this text throughout a week.

What we will be learning this term

<p>English Our class text- Meet me by the Steelmen and Krindlekrax</p> <p>Additional texts: Sam Wu is not Afraid of the Dark, This is our World, Manfish and Coming to England</p>	<p>Maths Concepts covered- We will use this half term to finish multiplication and division, study length and perimeter then begin work on fractions.</p> <p>Time tables to practise- The Year 3 children are focussing on the 4 times table this half term and the Year 4 children are learning the 7s. As a reminder. The Year 3 children should be confident with 2s, 5s, 10s, 3s and 6s and Year 4 children should be confident with 4s, 6s and 8s in addition to these. Please keep practising these at home to support their fluency.</p>
<p>Other Curricular areas: In History, we will be starting to study Ancient Greece in preparation for our visit to the Danum Museum and Galleries after half term. In Geography we will be learning about earthquakes and will begin to study biomes and landscapes. In Science we will be continuing our learning about rocks and soils, with a focus on investigation skills. In PE we will have gymnastics in one session and Netball in the other. We will be continuing Sports Education through Netball where the children will each have a role (such as coach, referee, resource manager) to develop their skills as a team.</p>	

Useful Websites

Website	Resources
www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button	This is a great game for developing quick recall skills in Maths.
www.activelearnprimary.co.uk	As previously, you can find additional books here. If you have any trouble logging on, please let me know.
https://trockstars.com/	Your child will have their login in their learning log.
https://app.bedrocklearning.org/	Your child will have their login in their learning log.
www.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/	Free to register with additional books you can enjoy with your child.