

It may have been a shorter half term but it has been jam-packed with learning and experiences. The highlight for us in Hazel class this half term has been the start of our Fishkeeper Fry programme and the excitement and engagement of the children each Tuesday when we have our Fishkeeper sessions. We have a class full of budding and educated fishkeepers! We look forward to welcoming new fish and snails to the tank in the coming weeks.

## 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. We now focus this more specifically and ask 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 on 19<sup>th</sup> January.

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

The spellings for next half term are:

favourite	February	forwards	fruit	grammar
group	guard	guide	heard	heart
height	history	imagine	increase	important
interest	island	knowledge	learn	length

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. Thank you.

**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. Please also make sure your child brings this to school each day as we use the same text at school as you read at home.

### What we will be learning this term

<p><b>English</b> <b>Our class text-</b> Meet me by the Steelmen and Manfish</p> <p><b>Additional texts:</b> Lila and the secret of the rain, Song of the dolphin Boy, Zoo, The Last Bear</p>	<p><b>Maths Concepts covered-</b> We will use this half term to finish studying length and perimeter then begin work on fractions.</p> <p><b>Time tables to practise-</b> 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><b>Other Curricular areas:</b> This half term we are looking forward to our visit to the Danum museum and art gallery for our workshop on artefacts from Ancient Greece. We will use this to compare with the achievements of the Romans which we learnt about last half term. In Geography, we will continue our learning about Earthquakes and why these occur. In PE we move on to striking and fielding and begin to learn the skills of cricket. On poor weather days, we will continue our gymnastics unit. In Computing, we will begin to learn how to code using Scratch and look at creating our own coded games.</p>	

### Useful Websites

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