

Miss Eddershaw and I have been amazed by your children this half term. We have really enjoyed the start to the year as Hazel class and the children have come together to become a fantastic team. They have made new friends, welcomed new classmates, supported each other and we are so proud of each and every one of them. One of the highlights for us so far was the Tom Gates author visit. This has inspired so many children to write for pleasure at home and we love listening to them read their stories aloud to the class. The other highlight was the amazing Science of Sound workshop! We can't believe how much the children have retained and how well they worked with complex tools to make their instruments. We're looking forward to a fun-filled half term leading up to Christmas!

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 have decided to focus this more specifically and would like you child to work on the following 20 spellings this half term (approx. 3 per week), ready for a half termly assessment:

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

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

Continue to support your child with any extra learning they would like to do at home and continue to encourage them to bring it in. We have seen extra writing, had favourite books shared, additional Maths work, Powerpoint presentations just to name a few! It's lovely to see the children are keen to continue their learning at home.

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- Due to going with the children's interests of Tom Gates and 13 Storey Treehouse last half term, we will focus on Charlotte's Web and The Last Firefox again half term instead.</p> <p>Additional texts: The Last Bear, Meet Me by the Steelmen, The Dog who Saved Christmas, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</p>	<p>Maths Concepts covered- We will use this half term to finish addition and subtraction before moving on to multiplication and division. Year 4 have an additional unit of Area.</p> <p>Time tables to practise- The Year 3 children are focussing on the 6 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 and 3s 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 this half term the children will be learning about James I and the Gunpowder Plot. They will then move on to mining. The Year 3s will learn about miners and their roles, while the Year 4s will move on from their learning last year with a greater focus on the miners' strikes.</p> <p>In Science we will be learning about rocks and soils, with a focus on the work of geologists Florence Bascom and Anjana Khatwa.</p>	

We're continuing with our focus artists in art being Rene Magritte and Vincent Van Gogh. We will be learning further skills in light and dark and how to add shading and shadows.

In PE we will be dancing in preparation for our Christmas performance. More on this will be out shortly!

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.