

Friday 25th January 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the Spring Term. I hope you all enjoyed a lovely Christmas and managed to find some time to rest and recharge the batteries. It is lovely to see all the children back at school in such high spirits and I am looking forward to channeling all their energy into some fantastic work this term.

Topic

This term's topic is entitled '*Explosions, Potions and Dreams*' and so we are going to be taking a Shakespearean twist on this and studying the tragedy of Macbeth. We will be reading a simplified version of the story, which has been written for children, and then building our topic around the harrowing tale. The children will be developing their skills and talents as creative writers and creating a portfolio of Macbeth-inspired writing to share during our next 'Open Classroom Morning' on the 27th March.

SATS

All Year 6 parents should have received a letter regarding individual SATs meetings to replace this term's Parents' Evenings. If we haven't yet managed to put a date in the diary for your child then please come and see me to do so. I am keen for us to meet with a little extra time so that we can talk about your child's progress and next steps in more detail.

Timetable

With SATs fast approaching for our Year 6 pupils, the timetable will be changing significantly for all the children this term. These changes will enable our Year 6 children to feel prepared and ready to achieve their very best, whilst also helping our Year 5 children to develop the pace, stamina and focus required to succeed as they transition into Year 6 later this year. Please rest-assured that although the children will be doing much more Reading, Writing and Maths practice over the next few weeks, it will be balanced out over the Summer Term when they will be given plenty of time to enjoy more of the Foundation Subjects such as: Music; Art & Design and PE.

As always, variations in the timetable should be expected from time to time, however the proposed weekly plan for the new term can be found below. Please note that PE will now be taking place every Friday, although we do ask that they have a full PE kit in school at all times, in case of any timetable changes. This should include: black shorts, red t-shirt, white socks, outdoor shoes/indoor daps, red fleece for cold weather.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Arithmetic	Maths	Maths	GPS*	RE
<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
Spelling - Test	Spelling	Spelling	Spelling	PE
English	Maths	English	English	
<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
Reading Comprehension	Reading Comprehension	Reading Comprehension	Reading Comprehension	Science
Maths	English	English	Maths	My Special Thing

*GPS - Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

Home Support

- Creative Homework Map
- Weekly spellings
 - The structure of this has now changed – please read separate note attached to your child’s new *Spelling Patterns Homework Book*. The book should still be returned every Monday, as before.
- Statutory Spellings
 - All children should have a copy of these words – please ask if you require a replacement.
- Year 6 SATs Prep Activities
- My Special Thing
- Athletics
- Reading
- Times Tables

‘My Special Thing’ was a big success during the Autumn term. The children really enjoyed learning from each other, and we have had a lovely range of presentations so far. Thank you for supporting your child with their presentations; we look forward to more of these across the rest of the year. If you are unsure of the date for your child’s presentation, please just let me know and I can check for you.

Our creative homework map will continue this term and we look forward to showcasing the children’s work and talents for you in March. We have been delighted with the standard of work this term – thank you for your support and encouragement with this. In addition, pupils in Year 6 will be receiving weekly tasks, which we encourage them to complete in preparation for SATs. The activities are carefully chosen to practice skills and concepts being taught in class and to provide an added opportunity for practice and consolidation. To avoid any confusion, these tasks will coincide with Spellings and be sent out each Monday (for the following Monday). We will issue the first set of activities on Monday 4th February.

I look forward to meeting with you all over the next term, but if you have any worries or questions in the meantime, please don’t hesitate to come and see me.

Kind regards,

Hannah Saunders
Class 4 Teacher