

# Upton St. James C.E. Primary School

Headteacher: Claire Pryn

03/05/19

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back to a new half term. We hope your child has an enjoyable and productive time.

Our topic this half term will be: 'Which material makes the best boat and why?' An information sheet is attached to this letter with key words relating to our topic. Please spend some time with your child to discuss the pictures and the words provided. This will help them in class and allow you to be a part of their learning. Children's learning and skills will be linked to this topic where appropriate through the following work in the different subject areas:

Science	Properties of everyday materials and their uses	Computing	Computational thinking
RE	Why do Christians trust Jesus and follow him?	Geography	Where in the world do materials come from?
PE	Tennis & Athletics		

Literacy and numeracy lessons take place daily. Children will be following the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning programme in order to support their independent learning skills and will also be exploring the right to a clean environment (article 24) by looking at plastic and how it affects the environment around us and environments around the world. Outdoor and indoor PE lessons may change times according to the weather and/or availability of the hall so please ensure your child's PE kit is in school at all times and clearly labelled.

## Reading

Children on book bands will be expected to read at home for **10-15 minutes every night** and free readers at least **3 times per week**, either independently or with an adult. Children bring home reading diaries to record comments on the books they are reading. These comments should relate to reading matters only - any other questions/comments need to be communicated to the class teacher in a separate note. Please sign the reading diaries to show that your child has read. This is really important as it is clear whether the children have read or not that evening and counts towards their reading miles. When the reading book needs to be changed, it needs to go in the green basket with the reading diary. Your child will then change it in the library that day.

## WOW Balloons

Every half term children will be sent home with a WOW 'balloon' made from paper. A WOW balloon is used to report on something positive at home your child has done and can be proud of (no action is too big or too small!). We will celebrate these positive actions and display them on our positivity window in the classroom. We will also be acknowledging positive things your child has done in class

## Home Learning

In Key Stage 1, the majority of homework time should be spent on supporting the children's reading. A maths-based activity (learning number bonds or times tables) will be given as homework every week and the children will be tested on these every Friday morning. The children also have their Mangahigh log-ins. This allows children to access the website at home to practise their maths skills. Children may also take home a weekly handwriting to practise their letter formation. This half term, the children will also bring home a homework grid. This will have a choice of project tasks on it. The children can choose 1 project task they would like to complete. Although this homework is not compulsory, if completed it will give the children a deeper understanding of our current topic. The project task can be completed at any point throughout the half term and handed in. Once handed in the children will be asked to share their project with the rest of the class, explaining what they have done and found out.

If your child is struggling with home learning, or taking too long, please could you, the parent/carer, write a note to explain why the work is not completed - thank you. Home work should take around 30 minutes per week and any parental support is welcome. Please encourage your child to complete homework neatly, also focussing on handwriting. Please find attached a handwriting sheet to help you support your child with this.

As always, if you have any further questions, please get in touch. Thank you for your support!

Best wishes,

M. Vatcheva (Class teacher)

Please sign and return this slip so that we know you received this letter.

Class .... Date....

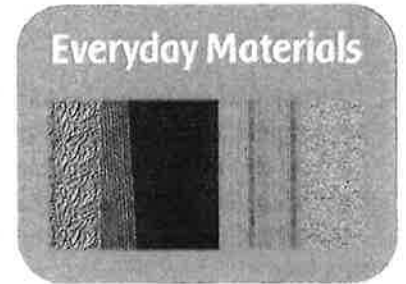
Child's name.....

Parent's /Carer's Signature.....

The table is the object and wood is the material from which it is made.



Everyday materials include things such as wood, plastic, glass, metal, water and rock.



The properties of a material are what it is like and how it might feel.

Glass is suitable for making windows because it is transparent. Bricks are suitable for building houses because they are strong and hard.

