

# Miss Watson's Class Newsletter

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

*Welcome back. I hope you enjoyed the half-term break.*

## Our learning

Please see the attached sheet for what and how we will be learning in the different subject areas.

## Homework – times tables and spelling

Children need to complete times table, spelling and reading homework each week.

Children should visit <https://trockstars.com/login> to play at least ten 'Garage' times tables games **by Friday** each week. **If you don't have access to the internet, please let me know, as worksheets can be provided instead.**

Children should also be learning their spellings, but these don't need to be handed in - see below in the 'Spelling' section for more information.

## Spelling

Year 4 children will continue to use their blue Spelling Log Book, whilst Year 3 children have a red one. These Log Books need to be at school every day because your child writes down the words they found difficult to spell during our daily spelling lessons. Your child should bring it home every night to practise the words that they've found difficult. These books cannot be replaced – aside from the cost, the books will be filled with words that *your* child has found difficult – so please look after it! Children who bring evidence of extra practising at home (e.g. parent/carer signature in the log book each week or spellings on paper) will be rewarded with house points. Please help your child to learn the red or orange words listed in the back of the Spelling Log Book, as well as the words your child has recorded in the book.

## Times tables

Expectations	
Year 2	x and ÷ 10, 2, 5
Year 3	x and ÷ 3, 4, 8
Year 4	x and ÷ 6, 7, 9, 11, 12

Last half-term, the children were working hard to progress through the times tables levels. They need to be able to answer 60 multiplication and division questions in just 3 minutes in order to move up. The government is introducing a times table check for Year 4 pupils, compulsory from June 2020. It is so important that children practise these facts by accessing Times Table Rock Stars each week - practice makes perfect!

\* Please remember to ask for worksheets if you don't have access to the internet. \*

## Reading

Please help your child to succeed by listening to them read as often as you can. The more often you can read with your child, the more fluent they will become and the easier they will find all aspects of their learning. Please record reading at home in your child's Reading Diary. Books in book bags are changed every Friday (unless your child hasn't finished with them – please ensure comments in Reading Diaries reflect this.)

Children may be required to spend time reading at playtime, if they are not reading at home.

## Phonics

Some children are still working on their phonics. If this is the case, your child will soon receive a phonics mat with sounds and words to practise. A phonics book is also sent home at least once per week. Please help your child to progress by using these resources at home.

## Topic Detectives

11 out of 27 pupils in Class 3 submitted Topic Detective homework before the holiday (one less than before the Summer!) A big well done to Ruby, Alisha, Callum, Abigail, Kinsey, Lily, Freya, Ewan, Becky, Liam and Maisie. You can see photos of their wonderful creations on the class page of school's website (unless you have withdrawn consent for your child's photo to be displayed.)

Please see the attached sheet for ideas about what we are learning this half-term and help us to have many more entries by the next deadline - **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December.**

## Water, fruit and milk

Water improves concentration, learning, health, wellbeing and happiness! Please make sure your child has a water bottle every day, containing only water. Fruit is not provided for KS2 pupils, so children may bring fruit from home for a morning snack if they wish. If you'd like to pay for milk, please ask at the School Office.

### PE

Please make sure your child has their PE kit **every day**, including suitable footwear for running our daily mile.

Children should have a **change of shoes** for running our daily mile.

Suitable clothing for outdoors PE, such as tracksuit bottoms and trainers, should be in your child's kit.

Shorts/tracksuit bottoms should be navy blue or black and t-shirts should be white.

PE will be on **Monday** afternoons this half-term. Depending on timing, children are often allowed to leave school wearing their PE kit, but if you'd rather your child gets changed back into their uniform before leaving please just let me know.

**Swimming** will continue to be on a **Tuesday** afternoon for **Year 4** children. Please make sure your child has the appropriate kit on a Tuesday. **Year 3 children will need their PE kit on a Tuesday as well as a Monday.**

**A big thank you** to everyone who ensures their child's clothing is named. Sadly, we still find unnamed jumpers, t-shirts, trousers and even coats that all children deny owning. **Please** put your child's name in all their school clothes.

### Nut allergies

There are children and adults in school with nut allergies. Packed lunch and treats for birthdays must be checked carefully to ensure they are **completely nut-free**, especially as one of these children is in Class 3.

### Personal Belongings

Please encourage your child(ren) to leave their own belongings at home. Phones, money (unless for a collection), football cards, toys, jewellery and stationery items **cause a distraction**, especially if the item gets lost or broken.

### Rewards

18 out of 27 children in Class 3 were an 'Always Child' at the end of the half-term, earning their Golden Time and a certificate. This is a big improvement from the 10 we had before the Summer. Always Children gain certain privileges e.g. their own line at lining up times; entering the classroom first and sometimes sitting on chairs instead of on the carpet.

Here's a reminder about expectations...

Children can earn three green stickers every week for their behaviour, work and attendance. Children who have earned enough green stickers by the end of the half-term become an 'Always Child'.

\* Children are given their green stickers on a Monday for the previous week. Please encourage your child by talking to them about their stickers.

#### How you can earn each of your green stickers:

**Behaviour** – earn 'Dojo' points and don't lose them! We trialled the 'Class Dojo' system last half-term, which we will continue to use due to its popularity and effectiveness. Children earn points for all kinds of positive behaviours – working hard, good sitting, working quietly, good listening, forgiveness... and points mean prizes!

**Work** – children must complete their homework (Times Table Rock Stars or paper equivalent) **and** reading at home by Friday each week, **as well as** doing their best with all of their class work. Children must also have their book bag, Spelling Log and water bottle **every day**, as well as the correct school uniform, PE kit and **change of shoes** for the Daily Mile. Year 4s - remember your swimming kit on a Tuesday.

**Attendance** – if your child is poorly, please make sure the school office is phoned so that we know where they are.

Green stickers are only awarded to children who arrive **on time** when the classroom doors open at 8.50am.

Children have three chances (e.g. three green stickers not earned) so they aren't penalised just for being poorly for example. Please help and encourage your child to earn their green stickers. It is really important to help them to achieve their full potential, and will prevent there being any disappointed children during our Golden Time at the end of term.

### Robots

Please help us with our DT project by bringing in your recycling – cereal boxes, kitchen roll tubes, milk bottle tops etc. Donations of tin foil would also be gratefully received!

### Parents' Evenings

Please remember to attend the Parents' Evening appointment that has been made for you this week. Please ask at the Office if you need a reminder or to rearrange your date or time.

### Dates for your diary

**\* Please see the attached sheet and the school website for important dates. \***

*Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries. I am always happy to help.*

*Yours sincerely, Miss H. Watson*

