

Miss Watson's Class Newsletter

Thursday 10th January 2019
Happy New Year and welcome back!

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, including red or orange words listed in the back. 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! Please look out for your child's latest spelling tests, which will be sent home soon, so you can work on any units they've found difficult.

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. *

To raise enthusiasm for times tables, we will be having a Times Table Rock Stars themed day on **Monday 4th February**. On that date, children are invited to come to school dressed as rock stars!

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

A big well done to Freya, Gracie, Kinsey, Maisie, Oliver, Callum, Alisha, Ruby and Finlay who submitted Topic Detective homework before the holiday. You can see photos of their wonderful creations on Class 3's page of school's website (unless you have withdrawn consent for your child's photo to be displayed.)

On **Monday 11th February**, you are invited into school to work with your child/children on a Topic Detective style project, instead of completing Topic Detectives at home.

* Please send shoeboxes into school for this if you can! *

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**.

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.

Please put your child's name in all their school clothes.

PE will be on **Tuesday** and **Thursday** afternoons this half-term. Depending on timing, children may be 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.

* Please note that there will be no swimming under further notice. *

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.

Rewards

Due to the success of the 'Class Dojo' system, we will no longer be awarding green stickers and 'Always Child' certificates. Expectations regarding behaviour, work and attendance remain the same, but through the 'Class Dojo' system children earn points and prizes much more regularly. Children earn points for all kinds of positive behaviours – working hard, good sitting, working quietly, good listening, forgiveness... and points mean prizes!

Robots

A big thank you to everyone who brought in their recycling last half-term, and for the donations of tin foil. Please keep an eye on the website for some photos of the wonderful robots the children created.

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

