

MARY EXTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Angharad Paterson
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Lianne Taylor

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Dear Parent & Carers

I hope you have enjoyed a restful Christmas break and your child is ready for the busy, but exciting half term ahead. We just wanted to make you aware of information and dates for this half term.

Spring Term

This term we will be following the theme of Traditional Tales. We will be exploring and reliving many different stories. Writing will be largely focused on writing sentences and in maths we will continue to secure different concepts using numbers to 20 for example addition and subtraction, doubling, halving and solving word problems.

During the term we will also be taking a visit to Hitchin Library as well as Hitchin Market to buy fruit to support our Staying Healthy topic. The date of this trip will be confirmed nearer the time.

Dates for the Diary

You are all invited to a **Maths Information Meeting on Wednesday 16th January at the end of the school day. A crèche will be available for children. The session should last no more than 30 minutes.** During this meeting we will be able to share with you details about how your child is taught maths at Mary Exton and how you can support your child at home. We will be able to answer any questions you might have during the session.

This will be followed up on the Friday morning (Friday 18th January) with a **“Maths Morning”** where instead of fine motor activities you are invited to stay and join in with a selection of maths activities with your child. This session will last no longer than 30 mins and full instructions will be given on the morning!

Homework

In addition to handwriting sheets, Maths and English homework will also be sent home each week for most children. Homework will be sent home on a Friday and it can be returned at any point during the following week. This homework is voluntary however any additional practice your child does at home will increase their speed of progress to the Early Learning Goals.

It is still recommended that you hear your child read every night for 10 minutes and practice their Rainbow Words / Letters (depending on the scheme they are following).

WOW Moments

Please don't forget we continue WOW moments all through the year so please keep sending them in so we can celebrate home achievements in school.

Celebration from Home

We really want to share celebrations that are important to the children and their families so please do send in a Celebration from Home sheet for your child. If you take a photo of your child enjoying a celebration such as a family birthday, wedding, christening or religious festival please stick it to the sheet with a brief explanation and return it to school. Your child can share these with the other children and they may be displayed and then added to their Learning Journal.

Should you ever need extra WOW moment or Celebration from home sheets please just ask one of the team.

Other important Year R information

- It is important that the children have access to water throughout the day. Please ensure that your child brings a named, sports top bottle of plain water each day. Please do not put water bottles in book bags as they often leak and spoil school reading books.
- Please label all their belongings: shoes, coats, bags, spare clothes, hats and bottles.
- As part of a government initiative on healthy eating, children will continue to be offered a choice of fruit for a morning snack. You therefore do not need to send in a snack.
- Please remember toys from home are not allowed in school. They may go missing or get muddled up with our own toys.

If you have any queries or worries please do not hesitate to contact the office and arrange a surgery appointment. Please remember the Reception team are here to help and support you and your child at Mary Exton School.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sarah Miles and Miss Hannah Isher

Class Teachers