



LYMINSTER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Wick Street, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 7JZ
www.lyminster.w-sussex.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr. S. McGinley
Email: office@lyminster.w-sussex.sch.uk

Telephone No. (01903) 713642
Facsimile No. (01903) 732013

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had a good Christmas and welcome to 2019! The children did some fantastic learning in the Autumn term and this term will be just as exciting. Below is some information about the coming half term, and a few other important pieces of useful information.

Our Topic: India

In our topic this half term, the children will be using their Design and Technology skills alongside their Geography skills to design and create a model of an area of India. They will link this to Maths using 3D shapes to explore the shapes of buildings.

Things to Remember

- Wednesday 16th January – Eco Day
- Tuesday 5th February – Safer Internet Day
- Thursday 14th February – Model Village Showcase from 2.30pm
- Friday 15th February – Half Term

Reading at Home

Reading is a vital part of the children's education and it is expected that they read at least three times a week, whether that is to an adult or by themselves. Reading certificates will be awarded in celebration assemblies for the number of times the children have read and to monitor this the children or adults will need to record this in their reading record, numbering each entry: **50 entries – bronze reading award**, 100 entries – silver reading award, **150 entries – gold reading award**.

Our reading comprehension focus this half term is **making inferences on the basis of what is being said and done**, focussing on inferring what is happening in the story using what has already happened. It would be brilliant if you could support your children with this and comment on it when writing in your child's Reading Record. If you could include a direct quote from your child in response to these questions that would be really helpful. For example, "Anna feels sad because it says she is crying."

Key questions to support inference:

- Why did (a character) behave in this way?
- Can you choose a character from the story that interests you? Why?
- How does (the character) feel at this point in the story? Can you find clues in the text and illustrations to show me why you think this?

Handwriting and presentation

The children have made fantastic progress on their handwriting. It would be lovely if they could have an opportunity to show you. As a school we continue to focus on high standards of presentation and handwriting and would like to remind you that you and your child have free access to our handwriting website:

<https://www.letterjoin.co.uk>. The username is **ak3814** and the password is **home**.



Homework

Spellings and Mental Maths (including times tables)

Spellings and mental maths activities need to be completed every day at home. **Books will be checked every morning** and dragon points will be awarded to those who do this. Children will be tested every Thursday and new homework will also be given out on Friday. If the children do not get all of their mental maths questions right, then they will remain on that same skill until they do so. Homework will be differentiated to meet the needs of each child.

- Spellings – children will practise their spellings every night using the **look, say, cover, write, check** technique. Children will receive the same spellings for two weeks to promote depth. In the second week, children can challenge themselves to write their spelling words in sentences.
- Mental Magicians (including times tables) – children will have a ‘menu of activities’ to choose from including creating posters, playing relevant games online and writing them out of order. Although there is no prescription over which activity the child chooses, it is encouraged that children practise using a range of methods.
- Take home task – over the course of the half term, the children must complete one of the activities from the grid. These activities will be shared and celebrated at the end of half-term show case. Dragon points will be awarded for these pieces of work.

And finally, please remember that your role in your child’s education is crucial. If you would like more information, or would like to become more involved in school (e.g. as a reader or as a helper on a school trip), or if you have any artefacts or resources to offer the school, it is always greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Mrs Sharon Walker
Year 2 Teacher

