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Celebrating Learning Together

September 2024

Dear Koala families,

Welcome back! Thank you very much for your kind gifts at the end of last term. We hope you had an enjoyable and relaxing break

Topics:

In history we will be learning about the Victorians and the key changes of the era.
In geography we will be learning about the UK.
In computing we will be learning about communication and collaboration.
In art, we will be learning about British architects.
In DT, we will be making soup (please speak to me about any allergies).
In RE, we will be learning about Buddhism.
In science, we will be studying Earth and space in the first half term, and electricity in the second.
In PE, we will hopefully be swimming on Monday afternoons
In RSE, we will be looking at healthy relationships.

We have lots of exciting events planned in for this term:

School visitors:

On 26th September, as part of the Appledore book festival, we will be welcoming author Philip Ardagh who will be talking to the children about how he writes. Thanks to Councillor Cheryl Cottle-Hunkin and Councillor Chris Wheatley this visit will be free and – through the Books at Home scheme - on the day, all the children will receive a FREE book with a signed book plate.

School trips:

On Wednesday 18th September, we will be visiting Totleigh Barton to spend all day working with two authors there. We are very grateful to the Arvon Centre there, who are providing this experience for free.

On Wednesday 23rd October, we have booked to visit the mosque and museum in Exeter – more details to follow.

School events:

There will hopefully be two occasions for the children to perform this term. First will be harvest festival, and then later on will be our Christmas performance. *Provisional* dates for these are 16th October and 11th December.



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Homelearning:

There are three parts to the home learning this term:

Reading:

We hope children will continue to enjoy reading for pleasure at home. We look for a minimum of three signed entries in the reading record, but children will get a house point for every signed entry. Ideally, children should be reading to an adult as this really helps with comprehension and vocabulary extension.

Spelling and vocabulary:

If your child uses Nesy in school, they should spend at least ten minutes, three times a week on Nesy at home. If they don't use Nesy in school, they can spend this time on any of the links I have posted in Google classroom. All the links are based around the spelling patterns we will be looking at this term. Children could use them at the same time we are looking at them in class or before or after. Whatever they think would be most helpful to them. A lot of research shows that pre-looking at something before it is covered in class is most useful. Make sure time spend on these activities is written down in the reading record and signed by an adult.

Maths

Unless I have said otherwise, maths homework will be to go on TT Rockstars.

If I have said a child can do other activities too, there are a number of links in Google classroom to maths homework activities to choose from. These will be added to as the term progresses.

Children should spend at least ten minutes, three times a week (or more) on them. Record what is done in your child's reading record and sign. Every session will earn a house point.

With all the homework, the key is little and often. It is much more effective to practise a skill a little over several days, rather than in one big block per week. As the children are in Years five and six, they should be more than capable of recording what they do at home in their reading records themselves, and then all busy parents need to do is sign next to what the children have written, to confirm it took place. Adults can of course continue to write it in themselves if they would prefer.

Hopefully all the above is clear, but if it is not, please pop in and see us at the end or beginning of the day. Please make an appointment if you feel you need a longer session though.

Regards,

Mrs Gough, Mr Alford and Mrs Wood



Website: www.shebbear-pri.devon.sch.uk