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Celebrating Learning Together

9th January 2026

Dear Koala Families,

Welcome back. We hope you all had a relaxing break. Thank you very much for all your kind gifts at the end of term. It was lovely to see so many of you at the carol service on the last day, too.

Topics

In Art, we will be studying the work of Andy Warhol and learning how to print in a similar style.

In DT, we will be learning both functional and decorative new stitches to make a small felt case for pencils, glasses or a phone.

In French, we will be learning vocabulary and sentences related to mealtimes (Bon Appetit!).

In History, we will be studying crime and punishment through the ages.

In Geography, we will be learning about what natural resources are, where they come from and the advantages and disadvantages of each type.

In PE, we will be learning about gymnastics.

In Science, we will learn about the Physics subject: Light. We will be studying how light travels, reflection and refraction, as well as exploring the work of key scientists such as Ibn al-Haytham and Isaac Newton.

In RE, we will be learning about Islam and what life is like for Muslims in Britain today.

In Computing, we will be recording and editing videos, learning how to frame shots, use music and sound effects and incorporate green screen footage.

Year Six SATs

This is the term we really begin the preparation for SATs in earnest. There will be a meeting for all Year Six parents and children on Monday 19th January straight after school, where I will go through the expectations and format of SATs with parents and children.

Home Learning

Reading (all year groups)

Ideally, children should be reading every day. As a minimum, we ask that children read to an adult at least three times a week. If you have having trouble getting your child interested in reading, please let us know and we can help them to find a book they enjoy more. Please record what is read in the homework diary. The titles of books read can be written by adults or children, but please make sure an adult has signed to verify it. Children will earn one house point for every time they read.

Year Five

Spelling

The Year Five homework will continue as before. Children will need to spend time on Nessler (if not yet completed) or the spelling activities in Google Classroom. Like reading, we ask that children spend at least ten minutes, three times a week on this. Children will get a house point for each 10 minute session they spend on there. Please can adults sign in the reading record to say when this has taken place.



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Maths

Also, we ask that children spend some time on TimesTable Rockstars or (if I have told them they can) any of the maths activities in the appropriate section on Google Classroom. Again at least 10 minutes, three or more times per week. Children will get a housepoint for each session they spend on there. Please sign to say this has taken place in their reading records. All children in Year Five also have a number of Active Learn games assigned to them. These are matched to the objectives we will be covering this term. I am not necessarily expecting all the games to be completed, but they can form part of the 30 minutes of time on maths per week. Just make sure the time is recorded in the reading record.

Year Six

Children in Year Six will now begin their preparation for SATS. This will involve extra smaller group sessions across the week, where we will build up exam technique and address individual needs.

Reading

On Tuesdays, Year Six children will be set an additional reading task (on top of the personal reading) which will be due in the following week.

Maths

On Thursdays children will also be set some maths homework. This will be specific to them and their needs. It will be due in the following Thursday.

Enrichment

Athlete visit: Your children should have brought home a form this week. More details are on the newsletter.

Class trip to Bodmin Jail: I have made a provisional booking for this for towards the end of the Spring Term. More details will follow when we know potential costs.

World Book Day: World book day is on Thursday 5th March and we will be encouraging children to dress up as their favourite book characters.

Comic Relief: This will be on 20th March. More details will be given closer to the time.

Easter: This term will end in the annual egg-rolling competition. More details will be sent out closer to the time.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Younger and Mrs Gough



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