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*Celebrating Learning Together*

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 break and didn't get too soggy.

**Topics:**

In history we will be learning about WW2.

In geography we will be learning about Scandinavia.

In computing we will be coding.

In art, we will be learning about the Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama.

In DT, we will be making electronic cards.

In RE, we will be learning about Judaism.

In science, we will be studying properties of materials and their changes.

In PE, we will be swimming on Monday afternoons (your child should have brought home a letter) and learning football skills.

In PSHE, we will be looking at healthy relationships.

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

**School visitors:**

On 28<sup>th</sup> September, as part of the **Appledore book festival**, we will be welcoming author Tom Palmer who will be talking to the children about how he writes. We will be selling books for signing from next week. These cost £8. A sample copy of each is on display in Reception for you to browse. If you would like to buy one, please give your child £8 to bring to me. I will then give them a copy of the book they would like. These books are limited and available on a first come, first served basis. On 28<sup>th</sup> December we will also be welcoming the **Dogs Trust** in.

**School trips:**

In September, we have provisionally booked a trip to Paignton Zoo. A letter with more detail will follow soon.

**School events:**

There will hopefully be two occasions for the children to perform this term. First will be Harvest, and then later on will be our Christmas performance. *Provisional* dates for these are Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

Continued ...



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## Homelearning:

There are three parts to the home learning this half 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 Nessy in school, they should spend at least ten minutes, three times a week on Nessy at home. If they don't use Nessy in school, they can spend this time on any of the links we have posted in Google classroom. If they are asked to choose a year group, make sure they choose the correct one (or the one above!). We have also uploaded a copy of the vocabulary games we play in school which you could play instead as a family. Let us know if you need us to print you a copy of these. Make sure your children record what they do in their reading record and this needs to be signed by an adult.

## Maths

We have put a number of links in Google classroom to maths homework activities.

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 housepoint. All the sessions should be on Timestable Rockstars unless your child has been told they can do the other activities as alternatives. Some of the games have the option of choosing different levels; always choose the level suitable for your year group (or the one above). If in doubt, ask me.

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 Year 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 and Mr Alford



Website: [www.shebbear-pri.devon.sch.uk](http://www.shebbear-pri.devon.sch.uk)