

Monday 6th January,

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a lovely Christmas holiday with your family.

We are all really looking forward to an exciting term ahead of us.

Dates for your diary:

Week beginning 20th January: **MATHS WEEK**
Week beginning 10th February: Parent Consultation meetings
Thursday 5th March: World Book Day
Second half of term: Whole school trip to Exeter to visit places of worship

Reading

Well done everyone on such a great effort with reading at home so far – it really shows that your child is getting support at home and it is making a difference, so THANK YOU, please keep it up! Thank you also to our volunteers for coming in to read with children. Research has consistently shown that reading, more than anything else, has the most impact on a child's future.

The system is the same as last term:

On a MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY, Mrs Fuller will listen to children read and change reading books.

On a FRIDAY, Mrs Wood will change reading books if necessary, and carry out a guided reading session with all children in small groups.

Therefore, all children will read to an adult in school, and books will be changed where appropriate, twice weekly.

Talking of reading..... on World Book Day (Thursday 5th March) we will be hosting an **Early Birds and Book Worms session**, 8.30 am onwards, where you, and/or any other adult, are invited to come in and share some books with your child, in an informal reading/story telling session. There may even be a biscuit and a cup of tea!

Home learning

Each week you will be given the opportunity to support your child's learning at home with activities that support the curriculum. All learning and experiences, whether at home or at school, are valued. Children will be rewarded with house points for their learning and good behaviour and these are used to reward them with Golden Time at the end of term. Being a learner is not just about Maths and Literacy – it is about growing your brain to be open to many different ideas, skills and values. Send in pictures via Class Dojo, bring in drawings, things they have grown and made. Learning is a shared experience between home and school and we will celebrate this at every opportunity. We love to see what's happening outside the classroom!

Activities your child will bring home each week:

2 reading books (these can be read more than once – this helps with reading and increases their confidence). Your child doesn't need to have read both books, but PLEASE share a book with your child as often as you can.

A Maths activity to try at home – we aim to make these as fun as possible, and please feel free to adapt as you like.

A short list of the high frequency words that your child needs to know how to read and spell. There are tricky words that are not decodeable and can't be sounded out, and there are some phonetic words. These are colour coded so you know how best to help your child.

Topic

In History we are exploring Queens and Kings, and in Science we are looking at the weather and also discovering and investigating materials. We are keen for the children to lead the learning so we will be following their lead wherever possible!

Housekeeping

Please could your child have a NAMED water bottle in school with them every day. Please could all clothing, especially jumpers and coats, be named. It would be helpful if your child knew in advance each day which option of school dinner they would like. If you would like a copy of the menu please ask, and it is on the school website too.

WOW Moments

Your child will come home with these each week - please feel free to use them to celebrate any and every achievement – examples could be getting dressed independently, reading, a swimming badge, anything! These are shared with the class on a FRIDAY.

Communication

We are using Class Dojo to let you know what we are up to and to send out any messages. Please can all urgent message, appointments and any absences be sent to the SCHOOL OFFICE. Any informal, non-urgent messages can be sent through Dojo. As a rule, we do check Dojo as regularly as we can. We use the yellow reading diaries to record who has listened to children read.

On a Monday, Mrs Fuller is on duty first thing in the morning on the playground and Mrs Wood is on duty on a Thursday.

You can always contact us by making an appointment with the office, sending a message via Dojo or an email. Please send them to the school office first, who will then send them to us.

Please note that Mrs Fuller teaches on a Monday – Wednesday and Mrs Wood teaches on a Thursday and Friday and we will respond during our teaching days.

It's going to be a fun and exciting term and we are looking forward to learning with your children!

Mrs Fuller and Mrs Wood