



7<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

We hope you have all had a super Christmas holiday and are thoroughly rested and refreshed. One third of the school year has gone already! We are really pleased with progress the children have made so far and are looking forward to them starting the New Year with a really positive attitude, ready to move on even further. There is lots of hard work ahead and we hope we can rely on your support to guide your children through it all. In particular, we would like to see the children reading regularly at home. It really does have a huge impact upon their learning in school. It doesn't have to be huge amounts each time; it's the consistency and developing the reading habit that will have the most benefit. Again, we will be checking their reading records on a Monday, and this is a good way for us to communicate about what and how well the children are reading.

As you probably know, we have begun our 'run every day' challenge, with the aim of running 100km by the end of the year! We would be grateful if you could ensure that your child has their outdoor PE kit, in particular their training shoes, in school every day. It would be a wonderful achievement for the children to reach 100km and it would be a shame if they missed out because they did not have the appropriate clothing or footwear.

Swimming starts again on 17<sup>th</sup> January for another 10 weeks.

The week before half term will be a 'themed week' throughout the school and the focus of all of our lessons will be about the Arctic and Antarctic. It would be helpful to your child if you could find out some basic facts about these areas in preparation for this exciting theme.

Below are the topics that we are going to be studying this half term with some ideas for activities you can do at home to support your child's learning.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

*Eric Pye and Adam Tennant*

(Class teachers)

Curriculum area.	Topics, ideas and skills for development this half term.	Homework ideas linked to the curriculum areas.
<p><b>English</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recounts</li> <li>• Tales from imaginary worlds</li> </ul>	<p>Read and discuss some English myths and legends. Watch out for films on TV which are based on myths. Read some poetry with your child.</p>
<p><b>Mathematics</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiplication and Division</li> <li>• Measurement</li> </ul>	<p>Practise their maths Learn-Its Practise multiplying and dividing numbers. Measure household objects. Use different scales.</p>
<p><b>Science</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sound</li> </ul>	<p>Make a junk musical instrument.</p>
<p><b>Geography</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Countries of the World</li> </ul>	<p>Find out how many countries speak English, French or any other language? Look at the flags of the world – how many of them have a Union Jack included?</p>
<p><b>History</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None this half term</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Art and Design</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drawing – figures in motion</li> </ul>	<p>Practise sketching moving figures from photographs. Look at the ballerina paintings of Edgar Degas. Look at the sports photographs of Bob Martin.</p>
<p><b>PE</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimming</li> <li>• Gymnastics</li> </ul>	<p>Take your child swimming. Consider letting them join a swimming or gymnastics club. Visit the Brewery to watch a dance performance.</p>
<p><b>Music</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Glockenspiel and Recorder</li> </ul>	<p>Encourage your child to listen to some of your favourite tunes and discuss them. Allow them to play an instrument.</p>
<p><b>RE</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Belonging to Buddhism</li> </ul>	<p>Find out about some practices of Buddhists around the world.</p>
<p><b>Citizenship and School Values</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflection</li> </ul>	<p>Help your child to reflect on the successes they have each day and what they might like to improve this term.</p>