



1<sup>st</sup> November 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

We can't believe the first half term has gone by already! The children worked very hard during this period, making a great start to the year and some good progress.

Many of you are making a really big effort to support your child at home with their homework – we are very appreciative of this and it will benefit them enormously. Please can we re-iterate that the Friday Challenges are designed to help you to share in your child's learning and are not meant to require more than 20 - 30 minutes of time (unless you choose otherwise). Other suggestions for homework you might like to try are listed at the end of this letter.

Whilst the above are optional, we think it vital to continue to stress the importance of reading at home with your child. We can't emphasise enough how important reading is to children; it underlies everything else and so we would urge you make an even bigger effort this half term. We would hope that every child reads for a minimum of 15 to 20 minutes at least 3 times per week. Your child will benefit immensely from such a boost. We will continue to collect your child's reading record in once a week, allowing us to see their reading habits and to provide a quick and easy means of communication between school and home. Weekly practise also applies to the 'Learn It' cards that the children have to help them improve their maths. Your child should also have been given the login detail for Spelling Shed and Times Table Rock Stars. Regular use of these will also support your child's skill development in English and maths.

We would also like to let you know about an educational visit next week. The 'Into Film Festival' helps educators bring learning to life for children across the UK by inspiring young people to watch, understand and make film in new and creative ways. We will be taking all of Year 3 and 4 to the Brewery Arts Centre on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November to watch the film 'Ferdinand'. Ferdinand is a U rated film and is a Spanish-set animation, with a gentle anti-bullying message that teaches children not to judge people by their appearances. This links well with our ongoing PSHEE work. We will leave school at 9.00a.m. and children will need sensible shoes for walking and a waterproof coat. We expect to be back at school at approximately 1pm, so a packed lunch will be needed for this day.

If you have any questions about any of the information included in this curriculum letter, please feel free to make an appointment or call into school to see one of the team.

Yours sincerely,

*Leanne Shaw, Adam Tennant, Helen Thwaites and Sam Brooks.*

LKS2 class teachers

#### Key Dates:

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November - Into Film Festival

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November - Children in Need

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December - Reading coffee morning for LKS2 parents

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December - KS2 Carol Concert at St George's Church (1.45pm start)

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December - LKS2 Christmas party

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December - End of term. School closes at 2pm

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January - Spring term begins



Curriculum area	Topics, ideas and skills for development this half term	Homework ideas linked to the curriculum areas
<b>English</b> 	Information texts Play scripts	Read non-fiction texts on a subject that interests your child. Visit the Spelling Shed app.
<b>Mathematics</b> 	Addition and subtraction Telling the time Times tables Learn Its	Continue learning your tables and Learn Its so they can be recalled rapidly. Visit <a href="http://www.mathplayground.com/games.html">http://www.mathplayground.com/games.html</a> to access a range of educational games relating to our maths topics.
<b>Science</b> 	Animals, including humans	Visit a zoo or wildlife park. Watch an episode or two of 'Deadly 60' or similar wildlife programme. Keep an eye out for wildlife in around your house – keep a record of what you see.
<b>Geography and History</b> 	Ancient Egypt	Research on the internet or visit Kendal Library to find out about Ancient Egypt. Make a model of the Great Pyramids or the Sphinx etc.
<b>ICT and Computing</b> 	Manipulating media	Watch some cartoons and listen for the sound effects that have been used. Watch some cartoons with the sound off and ask your child to add their own sound effects.
<b>Art and Design</b> 	Canopic Jars Christmas/Winter Art	Make a container to keep something special in. Can you find any other examples of Egyptian art?
<b>PE</b> 	Gymnastics Tag rugby	Ask your teacher for the 'What's your name, fitness activity sheet.'
<b>Music</b> 	Ancient Egypt	Visit <a href="http://www.historyforkids.net/egyptian-music.html">http://www.historyforkids.net/egyptian-music.html</a> to find out about Ancient Egyptian music. Make a musical instrument.
<b>RE</b> 	Christmas and Epiphany	Find out about the period of advent. What does the word mean and what are Christians celebrating during advent?