



10<sup>th</sup> January 2019

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 lots of reading being done by all the children. It really does have a huge impact upon their learning if they are reading regularly at home. It doesn't have to be huge amounts each time; it's the consistency and developing the reading habit that will be of the most benefit. We will continue to check their reading records more this term, and this is a good way for us to communicate about what and how well the children are reading.

An exciting part of the year 3 and 4 curriculum is going swimming at the Leisure Centre. The first swimming lesson will be Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January. Swimming will then continue every Tuesday until Easter. There will be a separate letter explaining what your child/ren will need to bring for these sessions. Swimming forms part of the PE curriculum but there will also be another PE lesson each week. All three classes will have their PE lesson on a Thursday. However, pupils should have a full indoor and outdoor PE kit in school all week, just in case the timetable is adjusted due to poor weather. Please see the school website for further details of suitable PE kit.

During the spring term, we will be continuing to develop your child's independence. One way in which this can be achieved is by asking you to encourage your child to come in to the cloakroom and classroom on their own each morning. However, should you need to speak to a member of staff, please feel that you can come and pass on a message or make an appointment if you require a longer discussion.

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.









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

Lower KS2 Class Teachers

#### Key Dates for this half term:

15 <sup>th</sup> January	Swimming starts
23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Miss Shaw's class assembly 2.30pm
28 <sup>th</sup> January	FOCP KS2 film night
30 <sup>th</sup> January	Mr Tennant's class assembly 2.30pm
6 <sup>th</sup> February	Miss Thwaites/Mrs Brooks' class assembly 2.30pm
15 <sup>th</sup> February	School closes for half term at 3.15pm



Curriculum area.	Topics, ideas and skills for development this half term.	Homework ideas linked to the curriculum areas.
<b>English</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stories from imaginary settings</li> <li>• Instructions and explanations</li> </ul>	Read a range of different instructions from games, for example, that you have at home. Write your own set of instructions for a game.
<b>Mathematics</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Times tables</li> <li>• Addition and subtraction</li> <li>• Solving problems</li> <li>• Measuring distances</li> </ul>	Learn 2, 5 & 10 times tables to a level where they are known without having to work them out. Practice adding and subtracting 3 and 4-digit numbers, using the formal written method. Continue to use Times Table Rock Stars.
<b>Science</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sound</li> </ul>	Make a musical instrument using junk.
<b>History</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tudors</li> </ul>	Visit <a href="https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/tudors">https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/tudors</a> and find 5 interesting facts about the Tudors to share with the class.
<b>Art and Design</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Portraits</li> </ul>	Look at the National Portrait Gallery website at <a href="https://www.npg.org.uk/collections/">https://www.npg.org.uk/collections/</a> to view the collection of portraits.
<b>PE</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimming</li> <li>• Frisbee</li> <li>• Dance</li> </ul>	Take your child swimming. Practise using a frisbee in your garden or at the park.
<b>Music</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three Little Birds- Reggae</li> </ul>	Encourage your child to play an instrument. Listen to some of their favourite music with them and discuss why they like it.
<b>Citizenship</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflection</li> </ul>	Help your child to reflect on the successes they have each day and what they might like to improve this term.