



31<sup>st</sup> October 2019

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 for all children in KS2. 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 Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November to watch the film 'The Grinch'. 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 12pm, so this will not impact on the lunchtime arrangements.

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:

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November – Nasal flu vaccinations

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November – LKS2 Maths Coffee Morning 9.00a.m.

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Into Film Festival a.m.

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Music concert p.m.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Y4- 6 to 'The Box' to watch Kendal College production of Pinocchio.

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - KS2 Carol Concert at St George's Church (1.45pm start)

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December - LKS2 Christmas party

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December - End of term. School closes at 2pm

Tuesday 7<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> 	Chronological reports. Fables	Visit <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/schoolradio/subjects/english/aesops_fables">http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/schoolradio/subjects/english/aesops_fables</a> and listen to some famous fables.
<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> 	Forces and magnets	Play a game together that uses magnets. Can you make a game which relies upon the use of magnets? Look at this excellent website <a href="http://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/magnets">http://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/magnets</a>
<b>Geography and History</b> 	The Romans.	Build a virtual Roman fort - <a href="https://www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/games/discover-the-romans/discover-the-romans/build-a-roman-fort/">https://www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/games/discover-the-romans/discover-the-romans/build-a-roman-fort/</a> Draw a Roman gladiator and label all their equipment.
<b>Art and Design</b> 	Felting Sketching	Practise sketching different objects around the home or even a self-portrait.
<b>PE</b> 	Dance Basketball	Visit <a href="http://www.mini-basketball.org.uk/">http://www.mini-basketball.org.uk/</a> to learn the rules for basketball and activities to play at home.
<b>RE</b> 	Christmas and Advent	Find out about the period of advent. What does the word mean and what are Christians celebrating during advent?