

Dear Parents,

Thank you so much for the lovely cards and gifts at the end of the Christmas term for both myself and Mrs Middlemist. You have all been very generous. I hope that everyone had an enjoyable couple of weeks over the festive season and wish you all a Happy New Year.

What is new for Spring:

- CGP books continue to be the main home learning for Year 6 to help SATS preparation. Please do encourage them to look up words they do not understand and/or to bring in their home learning early so that they can talk through questions that are confusing them with an adult at school. It is not okay that for them to say that they do not understand on the day as they have plenty of time for the book to come in early to clarify their understanding.
- The children's SAT week will be the week commencing 13th of May.
- A renewed focus on independent writing, this will build a bank of writing for the children's writing assessment deadline in June which could be moderated by an external advisor from the local authority. Please support this at home by checking home learning for all the basics: joined handwriting that can be read; basic punctuation; and interesting sentences that include adjectives/conjunctions so ideas are fully expressed. Do not accept home learning sentences for practising spellings that all start with I or they!
- Bikeability - the week commencing the 4th of March (letters that have been sent via parentmail are from Avanti Cycling but do ask if you have any questions). This is a fantastic opportunity to learn about road safety and prepare for road cycling at secondary school. Bikes are checked to be road worthy at the start of their sessions although last year there was the option to borrow a bike from them if required.
- Topics for the term include WW2, electricity and the geography of the UK including energy sources.

Home learning

Home learning will be given out **at least three times** a week as shown below. The core homework will comprise of a mixture of Literacy and Numeracy. During the course of the term, the children may be given a longer task to be completed over a longer period or an additional task to support research before a lesson. The children will continue to write their weekly tasks in their homework diary. Please do look at these (in secondary school they are asked to be signed weekly) as the children will write additional home learning and information within them.

Out	In
Tuesday (Spelling and Grammar)	Tuesday (Spelling and Grammar)
Thursday (Maths)	The following Thursday (Maths)
Friday (Reading comprehension)	The following Friday (Reading comprehension)

Spellings

Spellings will continue to be given out on a Tuesday and tested the following Tuesday. The aim of this home learning is to learn spellings, practise spelling rules and to develop their vocabulary.

Understanding their spellings in context, is key. Please do test the children at home or get them to practise using the words in sentences so that they learn the meanings of the words sent home. This could be verbally or written.

Along with this letter, I am including a maths knowledge organiser for you to use and display at home which will support the children in becoming more confident with the terminology used in geometry and also word mats to develop and extend the children's vocabulary connected with our history topic.

From the Summer term, home learning will be set on Microsoft Teams on the new school website.

Reading

Regular reading is essential even in year 6, daily if possible. This could include reading books, newspapers, magazines/comics, in fact the wider the range of genre that your child reads, the better. Please try to discuss their reading from time to time and continue to listen to them read – this helps to gauge their comprehension of the text they are reading.

P.E

PE continues to be Monday and Wednesday. If it is very wet or muddy, the children are welcome to bring a change of footwear for after PE. Long hair must be tied back (as it is for the school day) and earrings and watches, including Fitbits, must be removed for PE on health and safety grounds and placed in the class valuables box. Please ensure that your child is wearing enough layers as it is likely to continue to be cold or very wet this term.

As always please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or queries.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Firth