

Primary 6 Newsletter - Term 1

2019-20

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a good break over the summer. We are delighted to be working with P6 this year and we have a very busy year ahead of us. This newsletter will hopefully give you an insight into what your child will be learning during this coming term.

Maths: Hit the Button should be used frequently to aid rapid recall of all number facts. Why not try having a competition between adult and child to see who wins! This is essential in order to make progress in most areas of the maths curriculum. Your child also has a Sumdog log in which can be used.

Reading: Children will be given a reading book to read at home, I hope you will be able to enjoy reading with your child. Please use the Reading guide if you want to further extend your child's learning at home.

Spelling: I strongly advise you to encourage your child/children to go on Doorway Speller regularly. They can work their way through the common words as well as picking trickier words and sounds to practise.

Targeted Homework: Extra learning will be sent home if we feel it will be of benefit to your child. We have provided each pupil with a notebook which will detail any extra learning and important dates each week.

Some of the areas we are studying this term are:

- **Writing:** Taught writing sessions will continue to focus on 'Talk for Writing', an engaging way of motivating children to write through a number of teacher led and shared learning processes. This term we will focus on Suspense Writing through the novel Room 13.
- **Reading and Comprehension:** Through a variety of reading books the children will be building their confidence and comprehension skills by working on literal and evaluative questions. We have attached a list of questions to help you should you wish to ask your child about any book they are reading.
- **Numeracy and Mathematics:** This term our main focus will be Place Value as well as the 4 main processes of Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division. We have attached some examples of the learning which we will be doing in class.
- **HWB:** We will be working on Mindfulness which focuses on children's social and emotional well being. They will be learning a number of breathing techniques which will help them self calm in stressful situations as well as helping with concentration.
- **IDL (Inter-Disciplinary Learning):** Through Social Studies, IDL allows cross curricular experiences to enhance the children's learning. It includes a lot of personalisation and choice for the children as the learning is led by them more. This term the children will have a theme of Eco Tourism and will have opportunities to choose how they want to learn about this.

P.E: Our P.E. days are Tuesday and Wednesday. Please ensure that your child brings a gym kit consisting of a white T-shirt, black shorts and appropriate gym shoes on these days. It would be most helpful if all items are named. Girls with long hair should have their hair tied back and should bring socks for P.E. if they are wearing tights on a gym day. Please encourage your child to leave jewellery at home on gym days.

Recognition Boards: In our classroom we are developing 'Recognition Boards'. The Recognition Board will foster positive interdependence in the classroom. There is no prize, no material reward. The Recognition Board is a collaborative strategy which will target learning attitudes and not just functional behaviour. The target chosen will raise the expectation for all the children. The Recognition Board will emphasise peer responsibility where pupils are rewarded for effort.

As part of promoting independence we ask that children come to school every day with the following items:

*2 sharp pencils

*rubber

*ruler

*glue stick



*colouring items e.g pens, pencils *whiteboard pens

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

Miss Ball and Mrs Lowdon



Examples of Effective Questions

If you were going to interview this character/author, which questions would you ask?

-Which is your favourite part? Why?

-Who would you like to meet most in the story? Why?

-What do you think would happen next if the story carried on past the ending of the book?

-Who was the storyteller? How do you know?

-Predict what you think is going to happen next. Why do you think this?

-Is this a place you could visit? Why/why not?

-How is the main character feeling at the start/middle/end of the story? Why do they feel that way? Does this surprise you?

Were you surprised by the ending? Is it what you expected? Why/why not?

-What is the main event of the story? Why do you think this?

-How has the text been organised?

-Why do you think authors use short sentences?

-How did you think it would end/should end?

Can you think of another story that has a similar theme eg good over evil, weak over strong, wise over foolish?

-Why did the author choose this setting?

-What makes this a successful story? What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?

-How could the story be improved or changed for the better?

-What was the most exciting part of the story? Explain your answer as fully as you can.

-What genre is this story? How do you know?

-What was the least exciting part of the story? Explain your answer as fully as you can.

-Have you ever been in a similar situation to a character in the book? What happened?

-How would you have felt in the same situation?

-What would you have done differently to the character in a particular situation from the book?

-How would you feel if you were treated in the same way as the main character?

-What did the story make you think of?

-Have you read any other stories that have similar characters to this one? If so, which story was it and what happened?

-Do you think this book is trying to give the reader a message? If so, what is it?



Numeracy and Mathematics

Place Value

Give your child a number and ask them what each digit stands for.

For example: What is the value of the 5 in 5038, What is the value of the 0?

Etc

Addition and Subtraction

Use Hit the Button to reinforce number bonds as well as addition and subtraction within 100. You can also use paper to add and subtract using a written method.

For example: 789 or subtract the number.

$$+ 76$$

Multiplication and Division

We recommend use of Hit the Button and Top Marks to reinforce times tables.

Paper can also be used for additional practice of written methods.

For example:

$$\begin{array}{r} 789 \\ \times \quad 7 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \overline{) 789} \end{array}$$