



Heather Primary School Pioneers Spring 2017

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Happy New Year!

Here is an overview of what we will be covering this term so you can support your child at home and offer any expertise to help in school.

The work we will be covering this term is:

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| Literacy | Writing to entertain, inform and persuade by writing stories, poetry, recounts, newspaper reports, adverts and letters. |
| Maths | Decimals, percentages, measure, algebra, ratio, geometry and statistics |
| Science | Forces, Electricity and Evolution |
| ICT | E-safety focusing on protecting data. Using the internet and how data is transported. Programming using Logo and using databases. |
| History | Lives of famous explorers - particularly Charles Darwin |
| Geography | Map work and polar regions |
| DT | Designing, creating and evaluating Egyptian sandals - from Autumn term Making alarms |
| Art | Art this term will be a focus day later on in the Spring term |
| RE | What matters most to Christians and to Humanists? |
| PSHE | Taking Care Program and Financial Capability |
| Music | Classroom Jazz and Fresh Prince of Bel Air!! |

We will also be visiting New Walk Museum Leicester on the 16th January for an Egyptian Day.

Reading

As always, we expect children to read regularly at home, as this ensures that children make good progress with their reading. We do like all children to read at home at least 3 to 4 times a week - they will mainly be reading their guided reading books as all reading needs to be done out of lesson time. The children have all had a taste of the beginning of their new guided reading book and the books will be given out on Monday.

Please sign their reading diary each time you hear them read and the children need to write in it each time they read to themselves too. As mentioned previously, the children do still need to be reading aloud to continue to work on fluency, expression and discussing unfamiliar words. Reading books and diaries need to be in school every day. Diaries will be checked each morning by myself or Mr Hough.

PE

The children will have PE on Mondays and Fridays. Please make sure that your child has their PE kit in school on those days. Our Friday lesson will be outdoors so hoodies and track suit bottoms are useful.

Trainers are more suitable for outdoor PE, as they give better grip and support. Earrings cannot be worn for PE. If your child is unable to take out their own earrings, please remove them before they come to school. Children will be expected to take part in all PE lessons unless a note is provided by a parent/carer.



Homework



Maths: My Maths will be set weekly - lots of the tasks set will be consolidation of topics we covered in the autumn term to keep skills fresh. I will run a My Maths club on a Monday Lunch time for half an hour for those children who wish to use it.



Spelling: Given on a Monday, and tested on the following Monday. (Scores come home on a Tuesday)



Homework Book: All homework for up until Easter is in the book. There have been some great pieces of homework so far. If you have any questions, please ask.



Times tables: The children need to know tables up to the 12 times table off-by-heart, including the corresponding division facts. We will be doing regular times table and number facts speed tests to improve the accuracy and speed of recall. Regular practising of tables at home will really help. After our recent work on Fractions children are now seeing how useful it is to know your tables really well!



Water Bottles



Children may bring in drinks bottles into class. These should really be filled with water. Please make sure they are named as it makes it easier for us to get bottles to the right child if they are left on the field.



Uniform



Please can you make sure all uniform is named, so those children who like to leave clothing lying around school and then forget where they have left it, will get it back!



SATs



This term we will be holding a SATs meeting. More details to follow. Over the next week, the children will be given the opportunity to take last year's SATs papers to get them used to the style of the test and completing work in a set time,



Slippers



Can your child please bring in a pair of slippers/sandals to school on Monday?



Thank you to all of you who were able to attend our open afternoon after the Carol Service. The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their Wolves in the Walls picture books and their fabulous Egyptian Games which they programmed themselves!



Please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions about this term's topic.



Yours sincerely



Maxine Michalowski

