

# Miss Watson's Class Newsletter

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018**

*Happy New Year! I hope you had a lovely Christmas.*

## Our learning

Please see the attached sheet for what and how we will be learning in the different subject areas.

## Homework – times tables and spelling

Children need to visit <https://trockstars.com/login> to play at least ten times tables games **by Friday** each week. Please encourage your child to log on and get learning those times tables facts off by heart. If you don't have access to the internet, please let me know, as worksheets can be provided instead.

Children are still expected to learn their spellings, but these don't need to be handed in. Please look at your child's Spelling Log for spellings to learn, including in the back for 'orange words.' Spelling Logs still need to be at school every day. An additional sheet listing the spelling rules with examples was also sent home for your reference. Children may be required to spend time learning spellings at playtime or after school, if they do not learn them at home.

Extra homework (e.g. writing sentences using their spellings) will still be rewarded with house points.

## Reading

Please help your child to succeed by listening to them read as often as you can. The more often you can read with your child, the more fluent they will become and the easier they will find all aspects of their learning. Please record reading at home in your child's Reading Diary. Books in book bags are changed every Friday (unless your child hasn't finished with them – please ensure comments in Reading Diaries reflect this.)

Children may be required to spend time reading at playtime, if they are not reading at home.

## Topic Detectives

A big well done to the four pupils in Class 3 who submitted their Topic Detective homework before the last deadline. Lottie, Olivia, Ruby and Ben enjoyed their **GOLD** prizes and extra playtime before the Christmas holiday.



Please see the attached sheet for ideas about what we are learning this half-term for your next Topic Detectives inspiration.

Topic Detective homework is next due on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February. Please help us to have many more entries by then.

## Phonics

Some children are still working on their phonics. If this is the case, your child will be in a new group for English every day. Please keep an eye out for resources that will be sent home to help with your child's progress.

## Water bottles

Water improves concentration, learning, health, wellbeing and happiness! Please make sure your child has a water bottle, containing only water, in school every day.

## Fruit and milk

As Class 3 children are now Year 3 and 4, fruit will not be provided. Children may bring fruit from home for break time if they wish. If you'd like to pay for milk, please ask at the School Office.

## PE

Please make sure your child has their PE kit **every day**, including suitable footwear for running our daily mile. Suitable clothing for outdoors PE, such as tracksuit bottoms and trainers, should be in your child's kit.

Shorts/tracksuit bottoms should be navy blue or black and t-shirts should be white.

PE will be on **Friday** afternoons this half-term. Depending on timing, children may be allowed to leave school wearing their PE kit, but if you'd rather your child gets changed back into their uniform before leaving please just let me know.

Swimming will be on a Tuesday afternoon. Please make sure you have returned the consent form, and that your child has the appropriate kit on a Tuesday.

**Please, please, please** ensure all clothing is named! We still find endless jumpers, t-shirts and trousers that all children deny owning!

#### **Nut allergies**

Just a reminder that there are children in school with nut allergies. Packed lunch and treats for birthdays must be checked carefully to ensure they are **completely nut-free**, especially as one of these children is in Class 3.

#### **Personal Belongings**

Another reminder about children leaving their own belongings at home, please. Phones, money (unless for a collection), toys e.g. fidget spinners, jewellery such as necklaces, and stationery items such as pens, rubbers and pencil cases cause a distraction, especially if the item gets lost or broken.

Please note that 'Always Children' are allowed to bring a pencil case if they wish, because they have proven that their behaviour is excellent at all times and that they won't be distracted by them. This is at their own risk, as items can still get damaged or lost.

#### **Rewards**

16 out of 31 children in Class 3 were an 'Always Child' at the end of last half-term, earning their Golden Time and a certificate. Always Children also gain certain privileges e.g. permitted to bring a pencil case; their own line at lining up times; entering the classroom first; sitting on chairs rather than on the carpet.

Here's a reminder about expectations...

Children can earn three green stickers every week for their behaviour, work and attendance. Children who have earned enough green stickers by the end of the half-term become an 'Always Child'.

\* Children are given their green stickers on a Monday for the previous week. Please encourage your child by talking to them about their stickers.

#### **How you can earn each of your green stickers:**

**Behaviour** – don't move down our behaviour chart by making the wrong choices e.g. talking, shouting out, being silly – if you do, improve your behaviour quickly. Children who move down the behaviour chart too far or too often will not receive a green sticker for behaviour.

Children who move down the behaviour chart lose some minutes of their playtime.

**Work** – children must complete their homework **and** reading at home by Friday each week, **as well as** doing their best with all of their class work. Children must also have their book bag, Spelling Log and water bottle **every day**, have the correct PE kit every day, as well as suitable footwear for running daily, have their swimming kit on a Tuesday and wear the correct school uniform every day (**please** ensure clothing is named).

**Attendance** – if your child is poorly, please make sure the school office is phoned so that we know where they are. Green stickers are only awarded to children who arrive **on time** when the classroom doors open at 8.50am.

Children are given three chances (e.g. three green stickers not earned) so that children aren't penalised just for being poorly for example, but three chances should be plenty. Please help and encourage your child to earn their green stickers. It is really important to help them to achieve their full potential, and will prevent there being any disappointed children during our Golden Time on the last afternoon of the half-term.

#### **Plastic bottles**

Before the last week of the half-term, we would like empty plastic bottles for a project please, if you have any.

#### **Dates for your diary**

**\* Please see the attached sheet for important dates. \***

*Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries. I am always happy to help.*

*Yours sincerely,  
Miss H. Watson*