

Springfield Primary Academy

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Principal Mrs T Storr

Care, Collaboration, Challenge

Homework, routines and other information for Years 3 and 4

11th September 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the autumn term at Springfield. This letter provides information on routines, topic work etc. for your child.

Reading Records: It is most important that your child continues to read a combination of fiction and non-fiction on a regular basis at home, ideally about 10-15 minutes a day (we suggest just before bedtime). This forms an important part of their homework and will significantly impact on their progress in all subject areas. Each completed 'read at home' (with a completed entry in their reading record), will earn a Dojo point and, if a child completes three reads within a week, they will receive a bonus 3 Dojo points.

KS2 children will continue to use their reading record, which will accompany their reading book. Please ensure you date their reading record and write a comment about what they have read. These reading records will be checked regularly by your child's class teacher. In addition to being a record of reading, the booklets also contain spelling, punctuation and grammar information to help your child with homework and revision.

Topic work: Our topic for the first half term is Natural Disasters. The Children will learn about the formation of volcanoes, and why earthquakes happen, including finding out about some famous earthquakes. They will identify reasons why people choose to live in disaster prone areas and the impact of earthquakes on the environment and humans. Children will learn how tectonic plates shape the land and about the Richter scale, comparing magnitudes with the UK. For the second half term, our topic will be Romans. Adding to their knowledge on the British Isles and world history, the children will learn about the sophistication of the Roman Empire and the characteristics of this time, with a particular focus on their invasion and occupation of Britain. They will explore different sources of evidence and consider the Roman lifestyle and the impact their invasion had on daily life in Britain: innovation (technology and beliefs) and British resistance (Boudicca and the Iceni).

PE: There will be 2 PE lessons per week. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate PE kit with them on these days (black shorts and red t-shirt). As it gets colder, children may wear a black or red coloured sweatshirt/school hoodie and plain black coloured leggings/jogging bottoms. We kindly ask that you ensure all children have removed jewellery, particularly earrings, before attending school on PE days. Please note that earrings must be removed and tape or plasters covering them is not acceptable. PE days are as follows:

Mrs Stanforth – Thursday and Friday

Mrs Forman – Monday and Friday

Mrs Namur and Miss Evison – Thursday and Friday

Spellings: Children will be given spellings to learn on Fridays for a test the following Friday. These will be available on the class story on Dojo. Helping your child to learn the definitions and practise their spellings for a few minutes each day rather than just trying to learn them the night before is the most effective way of ensuring they remember them in the long term. These spellings will be based on spelling strings and patterns we will have practised during our spelling lessons. Children will be able to log into EdShed.com to access spelling games and activities to aid them.

Homework

We will continue to have the half-termly homework menu, which will include a range of fun and interesting activities. Please find this either: on the Class Dojo or attached in your child's homework book. The children can choose which of them they would like to complete. The children will be provided with a homework book, however; they are very welcome to share their work through the dojo instead of their journal if they would prefer.

Mental Arithmetic & Times tables: As part of the National Curriculum, children are expected to have instant recall of all of their times tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4 as well as basic arithmetic skills and knowledge. The children will have a Learn Its test weekly, where they will try to beat their best score. We kindly ask that you help your children learn and revise these facts. To help make it fun and less arduous for parents, there are a variety of Apps, websites (TTRockstars) or songs on YouTube that could help.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Evison, Mrs Namur, Mrs Stanforth and Mrs Forman