

Mrs Crowther

Autumn 1

Welcome back - ready and raring to go for a new term in the juniors.

Reading is a very important part of learning in school as well as at home. I encourage the children to read every single day regardless of ability - this does not always have to be sat down reading to an adult but could just be reading alone for pleasure. You could always check that they have actually read by asking them a few questions about the book. On that point reading at home doesn't always have to be books, reading comics and magazines are just as valuable for the children as it allows them to experience a range of text types. The children will however be given a school reading book as well as having access to the junior library. I do expect the children to change their school reading book at least once a week, although if they are avid readers every day is also acceptable 🙂 Our library day is Monday so if your child would like to change their library book it needs to be in school on a Monday.

I know that starting in the juniors can be a very nervous time for some children and I have tried to reassure them on our 'Meet the Teacher' day before the holidays. If your child is worried about anything please do encourage them to talk to someone about it as if we don't know, we can't help.

Throughout the year, we will continue to send home the Key Instant Recall Facts. These are maths facts which are absolutely vital for our children to know off by heart and as the name suggests have instant recall of. Each half term your child will be given a new set of facts appropriate for their age range. We suggest that they practice learning these 3 times a week. You don't need to spend lots of time on them just 5 or 10 minutes and try to make it as fun as possible. The sheets we have sent home have some top tips and suggested activities and websites to help make learning the facts fun. It is important that the children keep practicing them even when they think they know them, as the more practice they have the quicker they will become.

This half term our whole school focus is 'One Moment in Time'. In our class we will specifically be looking at the life of William Shakespeare. We will be trying to answer the following guestions What was life like in Shakespeare's time? -Looking at homes and lifestyles in the Tudor period. What was it like going to the theatre? -Finding out what it was like to visit the Globe and see one of Shakespeare's plays. How can Shakespeare inspire us today? - We will be using lots of different art techniques to create artwork inspired by Shakespeare's play A Midsummers Night's Dream Please make sure you check out our website www.stjosephschorley.co.uk You can also keep up to date with daily events by following our Twitter account where I often post pictures of the fun we are having as we are having itl @Limbrick_Class

The children have all been given homework folders which contain exercise books and activity books as well as weekly spellings. Homework is sent out on Fridays and must be returned by the following Thursday so it can be marked and returned for the following day. Please try to get into good habits and complete homework as early as possible and not leave it until the night before. Spellings should be practiced little and often during the week and there will be a weekly test each Friday.