

Friday 10th January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

*Happy new year everyone and welcome to the Spring term at UPS! We hope you had a fantastic Christmas break and that you are looking forward to this new term as much as we are! ;-)*

**Our communication**

Communication with you all can be a tricky business! We have requests for information from numerous parents and so feel it is always best to send home emails containing this information so that we know you all have it. We know some of you may feel that there is too much but if you feel an email is something that either doesn’t necessarily apply to you or something you are already familiar with, then please feel free to delete it. We’d just rather be more thorough than not!

**Homework Survey**

As you know from our email – if you’ve read it ;-) – we’re asking about whether we should stick with our current format, or just allow our children to concentrate on loving reading, and practising those spellings and times tables, with some talk homework perhaps to stimulate your minds! We’ve set up a survey on twitter@urmstonprimary so please do let us know your views…

**This term’s learning…**

KS2 parents will receive a letter this afternoon along with some of the targets that the children and the teachers have set themselves for this term. It also gives you an idea about current attainment. Year 2s, you also have a letter stating current attainment levels. The letters explain what it is all about but, of course, if you’d like a chat about any of it, please do come and find us! Also, please check out your children’s class pages to find out what they’ll be doing this Spring term.

**KS1 English Workshop**

We aim to run a KS1 English workshop, much like we’ve done in KS2, this month but it may slip in to February. We’ll be discussing how reading, writing and spelling is taught (they are inexplicably linked after all!) and answer any questions you may have! Watch this space for more details!

**Come on everyone…let’s build our alumni community**

As we mentioned last week, we are starting an initiative in collaboration with the education charity, ***Future First.*** It involves building a community of former pupils (and even friends of those former pupils) who are willing to forge closer links with our school and perhaps be on hand to help us out and inspire our children in all manner of ways. So please get talking – sign up yourself and ask others to sign up on our online portal…the opportunities are endless! Thank you and here is the link (and there’s a poster too below…let’s watch our community grow!

<https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/signup/urmstonprimary>

**Science ‘Question of the Week’**

This week, the question is ‘***why can you sometimes see the moon in day?’*** Please do talk to your children about this and help to further enhance their curiosity in the world around them!

**Continuing with E-Safety**

Keep an eye out for our monthly newsletter which hopefully will help with some valuable information on current apps, games and E-safety issues that your child (and us adults!) need help with. January’s issue will be emailed to you.

**Reading Books**

Year 1 and 2 children have been allocated some reading books on their Active Learn account. Please access these with your children and please let us know if you are having problems.

**Being more**

We are still receiving calls and emails about how our children are ‘being more’ outside school. This is always lovely to hear so please keep them coming!

Have a lovely weekend!

Kind Regards,

*Mr Parker and Mr Doherty*

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