Crystal Class Newsletter Spring Term 2018

Welcome back, after what was hopefully an enjoyable Christmas break. Firstly we'd like to thank you for your support during the autumn term. It helped your children to settle easily and we are pleased to report that they have made a good start to the year. We are now ready to embark on another busy term, continuing with working through the Primary National Curriculum and starting new topics in the foundation subjects.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the lovely Christmas cards, wishes and gifts we received.

Home learning

We will continue setting home learning three times a week - Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar on Monday, Maths on Wednesday and topic related work on Friday.

Thank you to all of you who support your children so well with their homework. The red mark procedure will be continuing so please ensure that you sign your child's contact book at the end of every week and assist them to remember their equipment e.g. P.E. kit, etc.

The children are expected to read for at least 15 minutes EVERY day (including Saturday and Sunday). The children must record this in their reading records.

Home learning and Mathletics clubs will continue to run throughout the week in the hub. Please encourage your children to attend if they struggle to complete their home learning at home.

Star Reader

Currently the Year 6 Star Reader system has been working very successfully. Your child is encouraged to read every single day, to you or with you, and we would like to remind you to continue to sign your child's reading record in their contact book. There is a high emphasis on reading across the school and we look forward to continuing to hand out even more star reader certificates. The race is on for the first child to receive their platinum and rainbow awards!

SATs

In Year 6, we would like to take this time to remind you that the SATs will be commencing the week of the 14th May 2018 and appreciate any extra work that you are doing to help your children to secure vital mathematical facts such as times tables. We will be focusing on fractions, decimals, percentages and ratio in the Spring term.

Computing

This term your children will be using J2E for blogging and PowerPoint to create linear presentations about their topic 'Frozen Kingdom'.

P.E.

The children will have PE lessons on Wednesday and Friday so it is necessary for your child to have a full, <u>named</u> PE kit in school on appropriate days (this includes trainers and a navy blue or black sweatshirt for outdoor PE sessions). Be prepared as the lesson could be indoors or outdoors depending on the topic and the weather.

Over the course of the term, the children will be developing their skills through a number of gym activities. The focus of our outdoor sessions will be basketball and badminton.

Cornerstones

This term our cornerstones topic, Frozen Kingdom, will run over the entire term, both before and after half term. The topic focuses on the North and South Pole areas, with a specific focus on the Polar explorer Ernest Shackleton and the Titanic. The children will be learning about the role and importance of Shackleton's polar expeditions as well as life on board the Titanic and how the 'unsinkable' vessel sunk.

French

French lessons will continue to be taught every week by a French teacher from Coombe Girls' School. They will be continuing to work through the Rigolo scheme to learn the French Language.

Home Learning Planners

The children will continue to bring home their contact books. These will be signed on a weekly basis in school and we would appreciate you doing the same at home. If you have any messages for the teachers please use the contact book.

School trips & leavers hoodies

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the Year 6 residential will take place the week of the 25^{th} June, and that the end of year leavers hoodies are also available to order via parent pay up until the end of the spring term.

We look forward to a happy and successful year.

Mr van de Wiel, Mrs Trimble (TA)