

Topaz Class Newsletter

Summer Term 2018

Welcome back! I hope you had a lovely Easter break. We have an exciting and busy term ahead.

School Equipment

Each day your child should bring in a water bottle, their blue book bag with their contact diary and reading book. Letters and information will be in their book bags to take home. Please ensure you check these so any important information is not missed.

Maths and Phonics

In maths this term we will be learning to measure length, weight and volume and start to multiply and divide. We will also be covering fractions and identifying shapes. Throughout the term, we will be consolidating our number bonds to 10 and 20 and practicing our 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

The phonics screening test is the week of the 11th June. In this, children will have to use their knowledge of sounds to blend in order to read both real and made up words. Any extra practice of this at home is, as always, very beneficial to the children's learning and progression in reading. Please ask if you have any questions about this or would like any support in helping your child at home.

Homework

I will continue to set homework, alternating between a topic based task (which you can choose from on the topic grid) and Mathletic and Spellodrome tasks, which have the same login. There is a home work club running at lunchtimes for those who cannot access these at home and if homework is not completed the children will be asked to attend.

Mathletics and Spellodrome

Mathletics is a great way for the children to practice and consolidate the concepts we are learning in Maths. The children love collecting points and achieving certificates for all their hard work.

We will continue to use Spellodrome to practice and learn spelling words in the Year 1 curriculum. Again, the children can earn points through playing games around spelling and using the spelling rules we have learnt in class. The login in for this is the same as that for Mathletics.

Reading Books

Reading books are changed on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday if the book has been read. Please continue to sign the contact diary to show when your child has read. To challenge your child and develop their comprehension skills you can ask the children questions about the story they have read to check their understanding.

P.E

Your child will need a named PE kit in school on Thursdays ready for PE lessons. This includes:

- Coloured T-Shirt for their house group
- Shorts/jogging bottoms
- Plimsoles
- Jumper

Swimming will also start this term. Year 1 will be swimming on a Monday and so will need a named swimming costume, towel and swimming hat.

R.E

In RE this term the children will be looking at special books and stories from different religions including the Bible, Qu'ran and the Torah. They will also be learning about Islam and finding out about celebrations, special places and stories that are special to Muslims.

Cornerstones

This half term our topic is Paws, Claws and Whiskers where we will be learning all about animals around the world. We will be using maps to locate different countries around the world, comparing animal species and designing our own zoos. The children's homework and topic work will be on display in the classroom on Friday 18th May, so feel free to come in after school and have a look at what the children have been learning.

Next half term we will move onto the topic The Enchanted Woodland. In this science based topic the children will be exploring their natural surroundings and visiting a local park. They will have a go at planting their own plants to investigate what they need in order to grow.

Science

Animal Antics

In this topic the children will make observations of animal life in the school grounds, investigate the variety of birds that visit a school-based feeding station and learn about caring for different animals over time; from a familiar pet cat or dog to a collection of garden snails that are housed in a classroom terrarium.

Plants

In this topic the children will develop their understanding that plants change as they grow and according to the seasons and weather conditions. In the case of trees, children learn about the differences between a deciduous and an evergreen tree and look at real examples across the seasons. The children also explore changes to leaves and flowers, and observe the variety of both, describing them in detail and becoming more aware of how their numbers and appearance change during different seasons.

PSHE

In PSHE this term Year 1 will be covering *Going for Goals*. In this topic, they will be learning what a realistic goal is and will have a go at setting their own personal goals to see if they can achieve them. We will be discussing why we set targets and goals, what we need to do to achieve them and how we feel when we succeed.

Contact Books

The children will continue to bring home their contact book each day. These will be signed on a daily 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 and please make sure the children bring in their contact books and reading books every day.

Sports Day

Sports Day will take place on **Friday 22nd June**. If it is wet and we have to cancel we have a reserve Sports Day on Friday 6th July.

We look forward to another successful term!

Miss Richards & Miss Price (TA)