

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful Christmas break and are ready for all the exciting learning we have planned for this half-term :division and fractions, decimals and percentages, a gripping read in English and our overriding theme of bravery! Our Booster lessons for Reading, Grammar and Maths have started in the afternoons to prepare us for SATs. As always, if you have any questions, just pop up to see us or catch us on the playground at the end of the day.

Science

This term we will be finding out all about our cardiovascular system. We will be revising our knowledge of nutrition and exercise and their role in ensuring we remain healthy. The topic will culminate with us applying what we have learnt to create a leaflet of advice for the public explaining how to keep their hearts healthy. To support this learning at home, you can talk about how the heart rate changes throughout the day.

Mathematics

In Maths, we are going to be deepening our understanding of division, fractions, decimals and percentages. These are extensive topics and encompass many skills and concepts. You can support your child by encouraging them to complete their homework and play online games (examples overleaf). Check on the back of this page for examples of everyday Maths. Also, at home, please continue to encourage your child with their times tables every week.

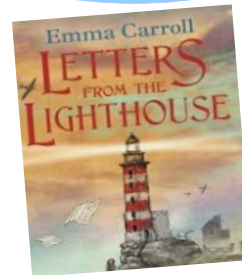
Art

We will be looking at the work of Kara Walker as a model for creating our own silhouette stencils, using a variety of topics to inspire our designs. At home, children can explore making silhouette shadow puppets using their hands.

Music

The children will be learning about the style of jazz. They will be playing and improvising as a class jazz band. Please continue to encourage children to practise their instruments at home.

Spring 1 in Year 6



Computing

We will be deepening our understanding of how to stay safe online on Safer Internet Day in February. Stay tuned to the blog to see what we get up to! Don't forget to **lock it, block it, show it, tell it.**

PE and Dance

We will be working on invasion skills with a range of exercises and games, both individually and as a team. In Dance, we will continue to develop our expressive movement..

English

We have already immersed ourselves in the world of evacuees and air raids through reading the book 'Letters from the Lighthouse' which is based on the tale of a child in WW2. This will provide us with opportunities to practise our reading comprehension skills as well as writing a diary entry from the perspective of Olive (a child evacuee); a newspaper report to announce the devastating news of the demolition and a persuasive letter so that the council are clearly aware of our distress! We are continuing our Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar lessons, looking at ways to enhance meaning in our writing as well as learning all we need to know for our SATs. Spellings will be sent home every week - children are expected to learn these and will be tested every Friday. We a continued focus on presentation, it will really help your child if you could work with them at home on their handwriting to embed the cursive expectations.

How can I help my child at home?

Websites

Sumdog (<https://www.sumdog.com>) - times tables and maths games to consolidate in-class learning.

Bug Club (<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>) - reading and spelling, punctuation and grammar games to play.

Top Marks (<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/fractions-and-decimals>) - games to help consolidate learning of fractions, decimals and percentages that we have done in class.

BBC Bitesize (www.bbc.co.uk/education) - a wide range of subjects, activities, games and quizzes to practise what we are learning about at school!

Everyday Maths

There are lots of ways that you can help your child understand the importance of Maths in their lives. Try some of these ideas!

- When shopping, ask your child to estimate the total cost by rounding. For example, three items at 99p would roughly cost £3 as 99p would round to £1.
- Can your child calculate the amount of change they will receive from a £5/£10/£20 note? This is especially good for mental maths, which is a skill they need to develop.
- Use percentage discounts in shops to help your child consolidate what they are learning in class. For example, if an item is discounted by 50%, how much was it originally? Or, how much would this item cost if it were discounted by 10%?
- When cutting food into slices, ask your child to tell you what fraction they have received/what fraction is left over.
- Get them to time how long it takes to do everyday tasks such as the food shop, drive to school, complete their homework... can they convert this time into minutes/hours and minutes?
- Cooking is a great way to practise Maths - conversion between grams/kilograms, time taken in the oven, cost of ingredients etc.

A few reminders!

PE kit needs to be in school on a **Wednesday and Friday**. **Homework and spellings will be set on a Monday** for checking the following **Friday**. Homework is compulsory in Year 6 and consolidates what has been learnt in class—if your child is struggling, please encourage them to talk to us. Sumdog and Bug Club will have activities set for the children for home-learning if they wish to extend their understanding out of class. Don't forget to complete your reading records - the more that you complete, the more chance you have of getting your name picked to win a book! Every time you read at home, fill in one of the boxes: the expectation is that children read at least 5 times per week.