

Redwood Class 2019-20

Spring Term Newsletter

Key Redwood Class Dates

- Redwood will be visiting Bristol Aerospace Museum on *Wednesday 22nd January 2020*.
- Redwood class will be taking part in the West Wiltshire Dance Festival on *Thursday 13th February 2020*. For this, we are performing a Mexican Day of the Dead inspired piece. Pupils will require a pair of blue jeans and a hoodie (plain ideally) as part of their costume. Full details will follow.
- Parent drop in for term three is Tuesday 4th February and term four is Friday 27th March.
- Swimming for only year 5 pupils begins on *Tuesday 10th March 2020* for seven weeks. Pupils may come to school in their PE kit (house colour school polo shirt, black bottoms, trainers and a black jacket/hoodie) on swimming days to help with getting changed.
- SATs week is Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May 2020. SATs club this year will be on Tuesdays, starting on 10th March for 7 weeks.

General Information

- Our focus topics for terms three and four will be North and South American art/artists (Art), World War Two (History), Electricity (Science) and Mountains (Geography).
- Homework is set and checked on Fridays. See more homework guidance on the reverse.
- PE will be Monday and Tuesday afternoons, although PE kits should be in school every day.
- PE kit consists of a house colour school polo shirt, black bottoms, trainers and a black jacket/hoodie. Pupils will also need a purple school polo shirt for sporting events and competitions outside of school.

Notices

- Pupils must have a coat and must have their PE kit in school *every day*.
- Children are responsible for organising books, homework and letters in their own book bags.
- Pupils need a named full water bottle in school every day for use during playtimes and PE lessons.
- Lunchboxes and water bottles must be placed on our lunch trolleys when pupils arrive. Playtime snacks must be put in the snack box in class. It's helpful if snacks are named.
- For PE (and sporting events) earrings must either be removed, or they must be taped over for safety.

Redwood Homework

Reading

- 📖 Children should now be reading every day for pleasure.
- 📖 Children may read to an adult, or an adult may ask them about what they have read for their homework. Please sign reading records when doing so. We check reading records for at least three adult signatures on **Fridays**.
- 📖 In year five and six, children are responsible for changing and managing books and reading records themselves. They may choose to keep a reading book in school and another at home. Reading records should go home and be in school each day though.
- 📖 School library books and other books from the classroom are available for pupils to check out, one at a time. We only ask that we can see books on at least a weekly basis.

Spellings

- 📖 We have a weekly spelling lesson, usually on a Monday. Spellings should be practised at home by completing blue folder activities at least. Spellings will be tested on **Fridays**.
- 📖 Pupils will receive an overview of the upcoming term's spellings at the beginning of each term. Spare termly overviews of spellings are kept on our class noticeboard.
- 📖 On the reverse of the overview, each word is also split into syllables; this approach can help pupils to focus on the separate sounds in a word and apply phonic knowledge.

Times Tables

- ✂ We test children's knowledge with our Space Mission Maths scheme regularly. It is part of children's homework to be practising times tables.
- ✂ Rapid recall of times tables facts is imperative to help children achieve their full potential in mathematics, especially so in year five and six.
- ✂ The '*Multiverse*' on Mathletics and [timestables.me.uk](https://www.timestables.me.uk) are great ways of practising online.

Mathletics

- 🌐 Mathletics is the website (also available as an app) that we use for maths homework.
- 🌐 Log in details are stapled in the front of children's reading records.
- 🌐 Up to two homework tasks are set on **Fridays** and due in by the following **Friday**.
- 🌐 There is also lots of extra maths practise for children on Mathletics, including fun games. Redwood pupils should be attempting higher levels of these for the best impact.
- 🌐 If pupils are struggling to access online homework for any reason, please come and talk to us. We can arrange alternative provision if necessary.

Other Tasks

- Topic related tasks may also be sent out occasionally in the blue homework folder.
- Year six pupils will receive SATs style homework as they approach these tests.