

Redwood Class Newsletter (Term 2)

Class Teacher: Ms Holloway

Class TA: Mrs Allen (mornings)

PPA cover: Mrs Hobbs (Thursday PM)

It's hard to believe that it is week 3 of term 2 already...and it won't be long before the countdown to Christmas has started! It was great to meet many of you at parent's evening before half term. If you were unable to attend, or wish to discuss your child's work, attainment or general well being further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

What are we learning this term?

English

In English this term, we are focusing our writing around 'The Tempest' by William Shakespeare. We have found the BBC animation (see attached) an incredibly useful tool in aiding our understanding of the play.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/english-ks2-the-tempest-index/zfdshbk>

During this unit, we have had the opportunity to explore the themes, ideas and characters in the play, as well as writing opportunities, such as character descriptions, setting descriptions and diary entries.

SPAG

Some parents have requested a glossary for the terms used in SPAG. When listening to your child read or when reading to your child, take some time to discuss the author's choice of words, word order or punctuation used.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwp8mn/year/zncsscw>

Maths

Year 6

Long multiplication and long division has been a challenge for some and all would benefit from further practise with this. White rose homelearning videos are incredibly useful when supporting your child at home.

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning?year=year-6-new>

Year 5

Practise, practise and practise those timestables and related division facts! Although pupils are allowed (and often encouraged) to jot down the timestables, it is important to be able to recall facts. I will be sending home some multiplication booklets but please continue to use timestables.me.uk.

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning?year=year-5-new>

PE

Although PE has been timetabled for Wednesday and Friday please ensure that PE kit remains in school for the entire week. This allows us to swap days when the weather is against us.

Topics this term

History What were the achievements of the Ancient Greeks and what was their influence on the western world ?

In this unit about ancient Greece, children will gain an understanding of where and when some key events during the ancient Greek period took place. Today, the **legacy** of ancient Greece is still prominent in the world and many of the ideas are used every day. We will be independently researching different elements of daily life and the opportunity to feedback to the class. To answer the enquiry question and to gain a better understanding of the legacy of the Ancient Greeks, we will focus our research on the daily life of the Ancient Greeks, , government (and democracy), architecture, sport, language and the arts.

https://www.ducksters.com/history/ancient_greece.php

Science What are the similarities and differences between everyday materials?

This 'Properties and Changes of Materials' unit will enable pupils to consolidate their knowledge and understanding about different materials, their uses and their properties. We will also be learning how some materials dissolve, how to separate mixtures (filtering, sieving and evaporating) and irreversible changes. We will sort and classify objects according to their properties. We will also work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate the best thermal insulator to make a lunch box, making predictions and forming conclusions. Furthermore, we will have chance to find the best electrical conductor, in the context of making floodlights brighter.

Homework

Reading

- 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**.
- Reading records should go home and be in school each day.

Spellings (Online via EdShed's Spelling Shed)

- We have a weekly spelling focus set on a Friday. Spellings will be tested on **Fridays**.
- Spellings should be practised at home by completing the weekly activities set on Spelling Shed. Extra 'paper practise' is also beneficial (however we do not need to see evidence of this).
- EdShed log in details are the same as Maths Shed and are stuck in children's reading records.
- Please see the ParentMail sent out earlier today for more information about Spelling Shed. Children will be shown how to use this in school. Please note, that there is a Spelling Shed app but this is not required.
- Log in details for Spelling Shed are *the same as Maths Shed* – find in the front of reading records.

Maths (Online via EdShed's Maths Shed)

- We will use Maths Shed for maths homework from this year.
- Up to two homework tasks are set on **Fridays** and due in by the following **Friday**.
- Mathematics will be used for in-school purposes this year (passwords for this have also been changed).

Times Tables

- It is part of children's homework to be practising times tables.
- Maths Shed and [timestables.me.uk](https://www.timestables.me.uk) are great ways of practising online.