

Reminders ...

Homework

- Reading - Pupils are expected to read regularly at home. It is important that school books taken home come back each day; if there are any issues with the book selected, please feel free to contact me. Please indicate how many times your child is reading at home by simply signing the reading record and saying how many pages they have read. Just 10 minutes a day can have a huge impact on your child's reading. Please aim for at least 5 times per week.
- Spellings – Pupils are expected to practise their spellings in preparation for a weekly spelling test, which takes place on a Friday. The spelling words will be a mixture of words linked to the focus spelling rule and common exception words and will definitely challenge your child at times. Please speak to us if you require advice on spelling tips and activities.

Homework Menu

For each topic this term, children will receive a creative homework menu related to their topic. We are keen to stress that homework should only take up a small proportion of the evening/weekend. We will always allow plenty of time for completion of the task and are happy to extend homework deadlines where appropriate.

However, we would kindly request your support in ensuring that your child's homework is completed to a high standard and handed in on time. All tasks should be written in pencil, with care being taken over presentation and handwriting.

PE Lessons - PE will take place on a Monday and Wednesday. Please ensure that your child is wearing the complete kit and please get in touch if there are any issues.

Labelling Property - Please ensure that PE kit, uniform, water bottles, book bags, etc. are labelled.

Finally, should you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. If your query requires more time, at the start/end of school, please telephone the school office to arrange an appointment so that I can make sure we are able to have a quality discussion.

Orchard Primary School

Class 3 Overview



Spring Term 2024

Classroom News ...

Welcome back. We hope that you have had an amazing Christmas and a fantastic New Year. The children have come back with a super attitude and are excited for the new topic. The children have had the chance to recharge their batteries and they are now fully prepared for the Spring Term.

Class Dojo – Please check this regularly. Where possible, I will be aiming to post at least twice a week. I will also be using this as a way of messaging, sending reminders for events or celebrating achievements in Class 3. Please note that I endeavour to respond to messages within 48 hours. If it is important, please pass a message on to Mrs Shields or Mrs Daft at drop off, myself at collection times or contact the office, so that I can give you a phone call. I am always happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Communication - School Information will normally be sent to you via e-mail; however, flyers or letters with slips to return may go home via the book bag, so please do check bags regularly.

Rewards - We set high standards in all aspects of school life. Your child will be expected and encouraged to work to the best of their ability. All effort is praised and rewarded with Dojo points, certificates and stickers, along with the new behaviour policy reward systems.

Special Events ...Dates for the Diary!

- Monday 8th January – School opens & clubs start
- Friday Jan 26th January - RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch
- Monday 5th Feb - PTA Movie Night
- WB. 5th February - Children's Mental Health Week with Dress to Express on Friday 10th Feb
- Mon 12th 3.30-6.30pm & Thurs 15th 4.00 -6.00pm - Parents' Evening
- Tuesday 13th Feb – Safer Internet Day
- Friday 16th February - School closes for half term break
- Monday 26th February - School opens
- Thursday 7th March - World Book Day
- Thursday 7th March - PTA Mother's Day Tea
- International Day of Maths – Thursday 14th March: Times table-athon & TTRS Dressing Up Day (NB: World Maths Day March 23rd)
- Friday 15th March - PTA Spring Disco
- Friday 15th March - Comic Relief Fundraiser
- Friday 22nd March - School closes

We are very much looking forward to the term ahead and to all the exciting activities we have planned.

Literacy: In English lessons we will be using a range of ice/water poetry and we will be listening and performing our favourites as well as writing our own. Following this, we will be writing our own Non-Chronological Reports about the Titanic. We will learn about the different aspects of a report and look at how we can present the information in an interesting and informative way.

Numeracy: In mathematics we will be focusing on key areas of learning, starting with multiplication and division and the strategies that we can use to solve a range of different problem-solving questions. We will end the half term by looking at fractions. After half term, we will be looking at recognising 2D and 3D shapes and learning about the properties of these shapes. We will continue to develop our problem-solving skills through focusing on talking about the different approaches we can use to solve problems.

Science: Pupils will be exploring Arctic animals and their habitats with a specific focus on polar bears. They will be gaining an understanding of why these animals are suited to these environments and how they depend on each other. We will then move on to developing an understanding of their life cycles and how they obtain their food, using a food chain.

Topics (History, Geography, Music, PSHE, RE, Art, DT): Our topic this half term is 'Ice, Ice Baby!'. This is a history led topic, but with strong cross curricular links to other subjects. In science, we will be focusing on life cycles, food chains and how polar bears survive in the Arctic. In art, we will be creating Inukshuk sculptures. In our music sessions, we shall be learning all about rhythm and pulse. For geography, we will be exploring the route that the Titanic took and the location of cold areas on a globe in relation to the equator. Finally, for our Design and Technology project, we will design and make a class Inuit wall hanging, where we all make individual fish using a variety of stitches and transfer to the final class hanging. Wow!

After half term, we will begin our Jurassic Park topic, learning all about the different dinosaurs and where these creatures once roamed on this planet. In science, there will be opportunities to look at fossils and observe characteristics.

Computing: The children will be learning all about 'moving a robot' and robot algorithms. Using bee-bots, the children will learn how to program them using buttons/instructions. They will also explore setting routes, and how to debug a program if something goes wrong.