

# Cool Conkers



Dear parents/carers,

We hope you and the children had a joyous Christmas and a restful break. Before we broke up for the holidays, children discussed what they would like to learn about this half term. The vote was unanimous, so for the first part of the spring term, we will be learning about the underwater world!

## Spellings

It would be helpful if children could leave their spelling books in their book bags so they can use the words to complete various spelling activities in school. Although spelling tests are done weekly (fortnightly for year three and four), there are times when I am not in school; in this instance, spellings will be done the next day or the following Monday.

## Timetable

Monday – Forest School

Tuesday – Theme/Science

Wednesday – Theme/Science

Thursday – Spellings

Friday – Funky Friday/PE

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY THIS HALF – TERM!

15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY – YOUNG VOICES

WK BEG 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY – POSSIBLE VISIT TO THE DEEP/SEALIFE CENTRE

6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – KS1 FOOTBALL COMPETITION

6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – PARENT MEETINGS

8<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – PARENT MEETING

9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM

## Homework

Please continue with the home learning packs throughout the year. These will be checked every other week. In addition to this, it would be beneficial to your child if you encouraged them to do the following each day (minimum five minutes per activity) read, practise spellings (in books). Each half term, children will also be given a themed homework task in preparation for the next topic. Additional English and Maths activities will be sent out if your child needs more practise.

## Friendly reminder.

Please make sure that your child comes to school on Friday wearing school uniform. As the weather is turning colder, children should have coats in school at all times.

## Reading

Children will read once a week (to an adult or an older child), take part in a guided reading session once a week, access Bug Club, partake in shared reading (in literacy and across the curriculum) and complete reading comprehension activities. Children should be reading to an adult for at least five minutes each day. **Please can you make sure you write in the reading record book so that we know where your child has got up to or if there is something they need to focus on?**

## Science

This half term we will be learning about underwater food chains, life-cycles and habitats and how animals are suited to where they live.

## English

This half term we will be reading 'Tiddler – The Storytelling Fish'

Children will be learning how to write postcards and the importance of using past tense correctly. We will be creating riddles about sea creatures and using writing to persuade the reader.

## Computing

Children will be learning about coding in computing this half term.



## Underwater World

## Forest School

Forest School will start next half term and will be on Monday mornings for six weeks. The field is still rather muddy so it is important that children have the correct clothing and footwear. All children will have access to the sessions as it is part of our curriculum and we would hate for the children's clothes to get dirty.

## Mathematics

Thank you to those children who took part in the sponsored times tables. Just a reminder of expectations for multiplication:

Y2 – X2, X5, X10

Y3 – X3, X4, X8

Y4 – all remaining tables up to 12X12

Please help your child practise these at home. At the end of year 4, children should be able to instantly recall facts for ALL the times tables.

We will start the half term with a focus on measures. Children will be learning how to use coins to make different amounts and adding and subtracting amounts. Please encourage your child to pay for small items when out shopping – lots of practise is key.

The children will be learning about life (including more ancient species) under the five oceans of the world. We will be looking at habitats and the water cycle.