



Scotforth St Paul's C of E Primary & Nursery School

"Let faith be your shield"

Scotforth St Paul's Primary and Nursery School
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11th January 2019

Dear parents,

Welcome back to school after what we hope has been an enjoyable Christmas break. May we wish you all a Happy New Year and a special thank you for the many lovely gifts we received from the children at the end of term. We had a very busy and successful autumn term and we are sure the children will continue to put in the same effort and enthusiasm this term. The class made a great start to supporting the wider life of the school, for example during Open Day and in carrying out their various jobs, and we continue to encourage them in developing their resilience, independence and sense of responsibility as they prepare for their transition to high school.

Details of the curriculum we will be covering this term are attached to this letter and can also be found on the school website. PE will be on Mondays and Wednesdays this term – please make sure your child's PE kit is fully labelled and in school on these days. Some P.E. lessons will be outdoors as we prepare for sports tournaments later in the term, so please ensure your child has tracksuit bottoms and a top in school at all times.

Homework will continue to be set regularly in Year 6, as part of the children's preparations for moving on to high school, and the children are expected to record their homework tasks in their diaries. Weekly homework will be organised as follows:

- Spellings, based on the KS2 spelling list, will be given out on a Monday to be tested the following Monday. These will be more based on spelling rules and patterns this term, though will include words from the KS2 spelling lists when appropriate. Your child has been given their new individual targets for learning the KS2 spellings, along with their half-termly progress review. These will be tested again just before the next parents' evening at the end of February.
- Grammar and punctuation challenges will be sent home on a weekly basis this term, in preparation for the SATs tests; they will be given out on a Tuesday, to be returned on the following Monday, when we will review them.
- Maths homework, related to our work in class, will be set on Mathematics each week (on a Friday). Paper-based activities may be set on occasions, when this is more appropriate. We will be continuing to work through the tables trails which were started in Lower KS2, so please encourage your child to practise them regularly. We have recently purchased the IT-based resource "Times Tables Rock Stars" which we will be encouraging the children to access regularly. We also recommend "Hit the Button", an App which we demonstrated to many of you at parents' evening, which not only reinforces tables knowledge but number bonds and related facts too.

The children will be reading regularly in school and should be encouraged to do so daily at home too. There will be specific reading homework linked to "Goodnight Mr Tom" or "Kensuke's Kingdom." Please continue to support your child with their reading, particularly through discussion, as even though many are now generally competent readers it helps develop higher-level skills when discussing character, plots etc. Please refer to the list of suggested questions we gave out at parents' evening, and the bookmarks with similar questions which the children have. In school, we will be focussing on written comprehension skills as we lead into preparation for the SATs. We will sometimes ask the children to read a short text at home in preparation for these comprehension lessons.

We will be holding our next Parents' Afternoon/Evening just before the half term break. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns or questions in the meantime. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Miss S. Huddleston and Mrs J. Redmayne

