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**Hawthorn Newsletter Autumn 2**

**Note from the Year 6 Team**

What a packed half term we had! So many wonderful memories were created during our residential and the Y6s did themselves, you and us proud, displaying our school values throughout the whole 3 days – especially in terms of their resilience. We also had our visit to Crucial Crew, which gave our class the opportunity to develop core life skills including road, water and fire safety as well as the chance to be introduced to the criminal justice system and see what a Magistrates Court looks and feels like. We now look forward to what will be another fantastic half term and the Y6s have chosen The Greatest Showman as the inspiration for our Christmas production – we are already practising. Thank you, once again, for all of the offers of support with transportation to and from the cinema; it makes such a difference to the cost, as the coach is always the most expensive part of any school visit. We cannot wait for our Christmas cinema trip. Please remember that the wellbeing of your children is at the top of our agenda. If you have any questions or concerns related to your child, please do not hesitate to email or ring the school office and either Mrs Perkins or Miss Smales will contact you as soon as we are able to.

*We are looking forwards to working in partnership with you this school year,*

*Mrs Perkins and Miss Smales (Team Y6)*

**Important Information**

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| **Day** | **Who’s in class** | **Extra info** |
| Monday | Mrs Perkins (all day)  Miss Smales (all day) | New spellings introduced in class  New text introduced in whole class reading and sent home today  Active 15  PE: Joy of Moving programme 1pm – 2.30pm with Rotherham United Community Trust |
| Tuesday | Mrs Perkins (all day)  Miss Smales (all day) | Active 15 |
| Wednesday | Mrs Perkins (all day)  Miss Smales (morning) | Active 15 |
| Thursday | Mrs Perkins (all day)  Miss Smales (all day) | Learning logs checked for reading practice at home  Active 15  Dance with Mrs Perkins and Mack |
| Friday | Miss Smales (all day) | Active 15 |

**Dates for your diary**

* Monday 11th November: ***Anti-bullying week***
* Friday 22nd November: ***Writing competition closes***
* Monday 25th November: ***Scholastic Book Fair in school***
* Thursday 12th December: ***KS2 Carol Concert (in church) 11am***
* Friday 13th December: ***Panto visit (village hall)***
* Monday 16th December: ***Cinema Visit to the Savoy Cinema to see Wicked***
* Thursday 19th December: ***Christmas dinner day and class party***
* Friday 20th December: ***INSET Day***
* Monday May 12th – Thursday May 15th 2025: ***SATs Week***

***PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY DURING SATS WEEK***

**Key things to practise daily/weekly at home**

**Spellings**

As last half term, we will be working our way through the statutory spelling lists for Upper Key Stage 2. Hawthorn’s spellings for Autumn Term 2 are listed below. We will focus on three of these spellings each week in class but the children will also need to practice these at home.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| according | attached | conscious | determined | equipped | explanation |
| familiar | frequently | government | identity | immediately | necessary |
| opportunity | physical | privilege | programme | sufficient | thorough |

**Reading**

Daily (or every other day) practise of reading from the whole class read text or reading for pleasure book and recording in their learning logs will also really help as reading is the absolute key to understanding all other areas of the curriculum. Please note that reading for pleasure books can be swapped any day of the week. All children will have their whole class read text (changed weekly, studied in class from Monday to Wednesday and sent home on a Monday and Tuesday) as well as a book they will read for pleasure. If your child could aim to read daily, or at least 4 times a week, and log this (and any other reading) in their learning log, we can then see and support your child from there. We are encouraging the children to read widely and to talk about what they have read at home, at school and to focus on expression, fluency and then demonstrate the ability to discuss the text, talk about the vocabulary and their understanding. Online books are on Active Learn and new ones can be added - we check them regularly and update them; if your child needs more, please let us know.

**Online Learning Platforms**

Times Tables Rockstars, Numbots and Active Learn are the 3 online platforms that we use in class and there is an expectation that your child can access these at home too independently. There will be 2 sessions a week in school allocated for these and 1 session (approx. 20mins) for homework. Usernames and passwords are at the front of the learning logs. Please see us if you require any further information about these.

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| --- | --- |
| **Website** | **Resources** |
| [www.activelearnprimary.co.uk](http://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk) | A variety of eBooks allocated to your child individually. |
| https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student/60522 | Times Tables Practice. |
| https://play.numbots.com/#/account/school-login/60522 | Key Addition and Subtraction Practice. |

**What we will be learning this term**

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| --- | --- |
| **Focused text:**   * Rendezvous in Russia * Poetry   **English genres**- Narrative, Non-Chronological Report and Poetry | **Maths concepts covered-**  Multiplication and Division, Fractions, Statistics and Mental Arithmetic  **Time tables to practise-**  Your child needs to have instant recall of all facts up to 12 x 12. They should respond to any times tables question such as 8 x 7 as quickly as they can respond to the question ‘What’s your name?’ It would be beneficial for you continue to recap the 7s and 9s this half term. |
| **Other Curricular areas:**  In PE this half term, we will have one session with Rotherham United - participating in the Joy of Moving programme - and one session of dance where we will learn the choreography for our Christmas performance. In Science, we will study light and continue to discuss changes to our class tree, the Hawthorn. In History, learning will continue to focus on some of the main achievements and advances in the 19th and 20th century. Within DT, we will focus on Computer-Aided Design, designing, making and evaluate a model or product that can be controlled by writing code. Music lessons will focus on Great Composers of the early 20th Century (1900-1940) as well as the songs for our Christmas performance. Within Geography, we will continue to explore climate change and renewable energy with a particular focus on wind energy. Computing learning will focus on programming, with an emphasis on variables in games. In RE, we will continue to explore Christian Aid, Khalsa Aid and Islamic Relief and PHSE will explore the theme ‘celebrating difference’. In Spanish, we will be learning about Christmas in Spanish-speaking countries and learning the song ‘Feliz Cumpleaños’. | |
| **Showcasing our learning this half term**  We cannot wait to show case our performing arts skills with you through singing, dancing and acting in our Christmas performance. | |

**Expectations of you and your child**

* **Importance of school**- Ensure your child recognises the importance of coming to school so that they are ready to listen, learn and play an active part in their learning journey in their final year of primary school.
* **Behaviours**- Our school rules are ready, respectful and safe. Our school values are belonging, kindness, ambition and resilience. Your support in encouraging your child to display these behaviours in school and demonstrate our school values is much-appreciated and will help your child prepare for high school and the wider world.
* **Independence-** We place great emphasis on children developing a growing sense of pride and organising themselves well in preparation for high schoolindependence. It would be most beneficial for you to encourage your child to be organised and prepared for their day in school independently to help facilitate them becoming more confident and self-reliant.
* **Growth Mindset-** We actively encourage a positive mind-set in everything that your child participates in (even if it is a skill or subject that they don’t particularly feel that confident with yet). The key word is yet!

**Ways to Help your Child**

* **Reading –**Children are expected to read at least 4 times a week and record this in their learning logs. Please help to promote your child’s love of reading by encouraging them to read often, widely and by reading other books written by authors that they have previously enjoyed. If you are able to listen to your child read regularly at home, this would be especially beneficial on a Monday evening to further enhance their understanding of the vocabulary in the text that we explore in whole class reading on a Tuesday. If you are in a position to listen to your child read more than once a week, this will be highly beneficial in aiding their inference and comprehension skills as you can focus on asking questions about the events/information, characters and language of the story/text. In addition to the whole class extract, which your child will bring home on a Monday and Tuesday, they will also have a library book that they have chosen themselves based on their interests. Children will be encouraged to change their reading books independently when they are ready; however, adult support and guidance will be available for those that request it. Visit Active Learn for additional books - see the front page of the learning log for logins. If you require more books, please see one of the Year 6 team - we will refresh and add books regularly.
* **Times tables -** Children are expected to access Times Table Rockstars at home 3 times a week to focus on repetition and also quick recall in any order. Encourage your child to be fluent in their response to all questions up to 12 x 12.
* **Spelling -** Encourage your child to practice their year group’s statutory words and zero tolerance words within their learning log as we will be checking these in your child’s writing as the year goes on, as well as allowing for class time to teach and practice these too.
* **Writing-** We continue to be impressed with the passion and creativity that the children have for Writing for Pleasure. There is always great enthusiasm for this. Remember, if they write anything at home that they would like to share, please don’t hesitate to send these in as we would love to celebrate their creativity.