

**Message from the class teachers:**

We would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year as we welcome you back after the Christmas break. We hope you managed to find time to rest and relax with families and friends. There is a busy and exciting term ahead as we start our new ACE History topic – Monarchs.

**Teachers:** Mr Belton, Miss Wheldon, Miss Madeley, Mrs McFarlane, Mrs Mason  
**Teaching Assistants:** Mrs Cooper, Miss Stevens, Mrs Bull, Mr Crump, Mrs Birkinshaw, Miss Ollerenshaw

**An overview of learning this half term**

**Maths:** Shape, division, fractions

**English:** Princess' Blankets- narrative, Biography of a monarch.

**History:** Monarchs

**Science:** Electricity

**Computing:** The internet

**DT:** Electrical Circuits

**French:** Animals

**RE:** What can we learn from religions about deciding what is right and wrong?

**Reading:**

The school expectation is for children to read at least 3 times per week and this should be recorded in reading diaries. These are checked weekly and children are rewarded for reading at home. Children independently change reading books once they have completed their book quiz on Accelerated Reader.

Following the success of last year, we will be hosting another round of reading café's so that parents and carers can come into school, listen to their children read and have some breakfast. These run in the hall from 8:40am until 9:15am; the infant gates will be open until the end of the session. Please take a note of your child's class' reading café below and we look forward to seeing you all there:

Vegara Class – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February

Cherry Class – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February

James class – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February

**Compass: Changing Lives**

Compass: Changing Lives work with schools across Derby and Derbyshire to provide wellbeing support to children and young people. They also provide parent and carer support around improving knowledge and understanding of how best to support and improve their child's mental health and wellbeing. They will be visiting school on 15<sup>th</sup> Jan, 29<sup>th</sup> Jan and 5<sup>th</sup> Feb and will be based in the hall from 8:40am – 9:15am. Pop in and see them if you would like to find out more about the support they can offer.

**Times Tables**

We will be continuing to practice times tables, as all pupils in Year 4 across England will participate in the multiplication times tables check in June 2024. The purpose of the check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall their times tables up to 12 which is essential for future success in mathematics. More information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents>

Please practice times tables at home with your child regularly.

**PE**

Mr Belton: Monday and Friday

Miss Wheldon: Wednesday and Thursday

Miss Madeley: Monday and Friday

Children must come into school wearing their PE kits on these days. Earrings must be removed and hair must be tied back for PE. Please note that, as our indoor unit is gymnastics this half term, please ensure that the children come to school with shorts either under their tracksuit bottoms, or to change into. This is for health and safety reasons.

**Mount Cook**

There will be a parent information meeting about the Mount Cook residential on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 3:30. More information to follow.