

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 about how Victorian inventions have influenced our lives today. We will also be continuing our hard work when preparing for our SATs in May,

Teachers: Mrs Bevan, Mr Bowen and Miss Illsley

PPA cover: Mrs Goosey, Mrs McFarlane and Mrs Cooper

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Mellor and Mrs Capewell

An overview of learning this half term

Maths: Percentages, ratio and algebra

English: Narrative writing based on the visual text 'Wing it' and an explanation based on the book 'Until I met Dudley.'

History: How inventions have influenced our lives today

Science: Electricity

Music: Machine music

PSHE: Healthy Relationships

RE: How can people express the spiritual through the arts.

PE: Netball and Gymnastics

General Reminders:**PE**

Earrings must be removed and hair must be tied back for PE. Earrings need to be able to be removed by the children themselves if they are doing it in school time.

Colfer (Mrs Bevan): Tuesday (outdoor) and Thursday (indoor)

Tolkien (Mr Bowen): Monday (indoor) and Wednesday (outdoor)

Morpurgo (Miss Illsley): Thursday (indoor) and Friday (outdoor)

Our inside PE this half term is gymnastics so please send your child with shorts under their tracksuit bottoms.

Children must come into school wearing their PE kits on these days. You also need a spare pair of trainers to leave in school for the mile run and Drumba.

Homework

Homework will be set online. This will be set on a Wednesday and should be completed by Tuesday of the following week. This will include: Spelling Shed, Reading, Sum Dog maths, and Times Table Rockstars. We will ensure all children are confident in accessing homework tasks and all passwords are provided in reading diaries, which must be kept safely. To prepare for SATs, children will also have test questions practice to consolidate specific areas using www.spag.com and www.maths.co.uk. They all have their log in details but please let us know if you need them again. Boosters are also continuing throughout the Spring term. Please encourage your child to attend these to help their progress and support them for the exams in May. We are really proud of those who have already been giving up so much of their time.

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 a breakfast snack. 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:

Colfer Class – Monday 15th January

Tolkien Class – Monday 22nd January

Morpurgo Class – Monday 29th January

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 15th Jan, 29th Jan and 5th 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.

Nut Free School

There are children and staff in school who have a severe nut allergy. Not only are they allergic to nuts, they cannot tolerate having food substances with nuts in. Therefore, we are a **nut free** school. Please ensure your child does not bring any nuts or food items to school which have nuts as a listed ingredient.