



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! Welcome back! I hope you all had a restful break.

We're continuing with the same staff: me (Mr. Avis), Cathy, Jemma, and Stacey.

This handout will provide a useful reminder of expectations with regards to behaviour and homework. Please remember that homework is due on the following Wednesday to give more time to complete it. It also gives an overview of the learning that will take place over the spring term. I hope that you find it useful.

### Behaviour

There is significant difference between KS1 and KS2 behaviour policies.

Positive behaviours will be rewarded with a *Proud As Punch* certificate, *Headteacher's Awards* or *Family Points*.

Breaking school rules will result in being placed on the *Orange List*. Once on the *Orange List* is the equivalent to a warning. There is no negative consequence. Twice on and the child will sit away from the rest of the class and complete a reflection sheet. A letter will go home to inform you if this happens. Three times on and the child is sent out to another class for 15 minutes. In addition to the letter, I will also contact you to discuss this behaviour to prevent this happening in the future.

### Homework

Your child's homework will be set out on Google Classroom on a Wednesday afternoon. There is work to complete in their **homework book**, **spellings** to learn, **reading comprehension** to complete in their CGP book and time to spend on **Numbots**.

The work completed in your child's homework book should be photographed and uploaded onto Google Classroom by the following Wednesday. Homework completed in **homework books** will be spelling based. Children will be required to write sentences each week, ensuring that they practise a set grammar skill that will have been taught in class. Please ensure they complete this valuable part of their learning to the best of their ability. Please do provide them with support when necessary. In addition to these tasks, if you can see your child is finding it tricky to learn the spellings, please help them practise.

**Spellings** will be tested the following Wednesday.

Every week your child must complete a **reading comprehension** in their CGP book. This must be brought into school on Wednesdays.

Children will be expected to spend 25 minutes on **Numbots** each week. The most effective way to learn is to spend 5 minutes each day (as opposed to spending 25 minutes on it once a week).

If you haven't already, please make sure your child knows how to read the time on analogue and digital clocks. This requires regular practice. *Tell The Time* watches can be bought online cheaply and they'll make the whole process easier. This is a key life skill that they'll be grateful to have learnt from you.

### Spellings

Spellings are given out on Google Classroom each Wednesday and should be learnt through the week for a spelling test the following Wednesday. You will receive your child's spelling result in their reading record each week (these need to be in school every day). If your child's reading record is not in school on a Wednesday, you will not receive their spelling result for the test.

### Reading

Your child will be given a staged book that will be taken home with them. There is no set day for changing books as children will be read with at different points in the week. To facilitate this; please ensure your child's reading book and reading record is in their book bag every day. It is very important to hear your child read out loud each day (even as they progress onto chapter books) and ask them questions about what they have read to check their understanding and develop their comprehension skills.

This term, I would like you to continue to focus on using the question frames inside the Reading Record. I would like you to write the question in the book, write which skill it's testing, and have your child write their response within it. Please do discuss the answer with them beforehand. Please aim to cycle through the skills so that your child has the opportunity to practise a good range. Children should be able to record the date and page number each time they read. This helps us monitor your child's progress and supports the development of their knowledge.

As with last year, if you read other stories please feel free to write them in your child's reading record too. I strongly encourage children to read other books from home or the library in addition to the stage book sent home from school.

As well as one-to-one reading, guided reading sessions and whole class reading will take place where children have opportunities to answer questions and discuss the texts with their peers. As well as this, children will complete reading comprehension tasks in class

At Boutcher, we promote a reading for pleasure environment and ensure that children have opportunities to choose texts more freely. Your child will spend time in our class reading corner and also have a weekly visit to the school library. Our library visit will take place on **Thursdays** so please ensure that, if your child borrows a library book, they have it in school on this day to be returned so that another book can be chosen to take home and enjoy.

### Uniform

A child's book bag with their reading record and reading book is considered to be school uniform and must be in school each day. Water bottles can be brought into class with your child's name on.

Please ensure all items of your child's uniform and PE kit are clearly labelled with their name to ensure they can be easily recovered if lost and minimise the cost of replacement.

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform and following the guidelines for hair bow/band colours etc.

This term your child will be learning the following:

### Writing

We will continue a book-based approach to the teaching of our English. Across the school, we have found that using a text as a stimulus for their writing brings much enthusiasm and gives them a purpose to what they write. Children will have a range of writing tasks both fiction and non-fiction. They will write in role of characters, write letters and diary entries, they will have opportunities to write stories, newspaper articles and non-chronological reports. In all lessons children will be learning or consolidating skills in phonics, grammar, punctuation, reading and handwriting. Our book for this first half-term will be Michael Morpurgo's *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*.

### Maths

We will continue to use the *Maths, No Problem!* scheme of work. This term's focus will be learning written methods for multiplication and division before moving onto looking at different aspects of measurement. You can find a detailed breakdown of what is covered over the weeks on the Boutcher website:

Key Information > Curriculum Info > Maths No Problem

### Religious Education

The question we'll be answering this term will be: What do the miracles of Jesus teach? We'll consider what constitutes a miracle and consider the difference between a miracle and magic.

### Science

We'll start our topic of *Animals including Humans* and then *Plants*.

### Computing

The focus of computing this term will be coding. Using the website CODE.ORG, we'll explore creating programmes and debugging.

### PE

Year Three will take part in PE lesson on **Thursdays** and **Fridays**. Children should wear their PE kits to school on these days they will stay in them all day. Children should not bring their uniform into school on these days.

### Theme

In geography, we'll be learning all about *Rivers*, including about the Thames and its docklands.

## Music

In addition to the weekly singing lessons, children will have African drumming lessons each week on a Wednesday afternoon.

## Notices:

Please check the newsletter each week (on the website) for other important dates or events.

Please have a look at our class page on the school website.

As always, if you have any questions regarding any of the information in this letter, or any other matter of concern, please do not hesitate to contact me. Contact the school office for further information.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mr. Avis