

Snowy Owls Newsletter January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and had some time to relax amongst the festivities! Firstly, we would like to say a huge thank you for all the generous and thoughtful gifts that we received at the end of last term.

This letter will give you some extra information about what we will be covering this term and any changes there are compared to last term. Remember if at any point you have any questions or anything you wish to discuss, please feel free to approach us on the playground at the end of the day or write a message in your child's reading record.

Literacy

This term the children will be learning about the topics of Florence Nightingale and Weather. We will be using this to inspire us to write news reports, narrative diaries and letters.

In order to become a successful writer, it is important that children are consistent with basic sentence punctuation (full stops and capital letters) as well as writing in a clear and neat cursive handwriting style. It would be most helpful if you could encourage your child to write at home (about anything that interests them) with a focus on these targets. I would be happy for children to bring in any quality writing they have done to show during Show & Tell.

Little Wandle Phonics Update Year 1s

The children will be continuing their phonics in year groups for the spring term. We have been fortunate enough to buy new home reading and guided reading books to use that are linked directly to our phonics scheme. This term the children will continue with daily phonics sessions to learn their sounds alongside 3 x guided reading sessions. This provides them with the opportunity to learn new sounds and practise them directly within the books they read. For more information on Little Wandle please use this link:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Additionally, children will come home each Monday with a home learning sheet to keep you informed of the sounds we are focusing on during our sessions. Please do support your child from home to develop their confidence with saying and reading the sounds. These will be sent home in book bags.

Maths

This term we will continue to develop the key skills that the children learnt last term.

The areas will we cover this term include:

Money

Multiplication and Division

Measurement: Length and Height

Measurement: Mass, Capacity and Temperature

It is important that your child can confidently use mental addition and subtraction to recite number bond facts to 10 and 20 (e.g. a quick response to what do you add to 5 to make 17?) and their 2, 5, 10 & 3 times tables. These skills are fundamental to the depth of understanding that children in Key Stage One should develop. It would be extremely beneficial if your child can practise regularly at home.

PE.

Just a reminder that PE lessons this term will take place on **Monday and Wednesday afternoons**. Please ensure that your child has their correct PE kit in school for these days. This term, that includes a warm tracksuit for outside in the cold weather as well as shorts for inside.

The rest of the curriculum at a glance:

History	Florence Nightingale (first half of term)
Geography	Weather (second half of term)
PSHCE	Dreams and Goals Healthy Me
RE	What is the good news Jesus brings? Why does Easter matter to Christians?
Science	Everyday materials-brilliant builders Plants
DT /Art	Materials to create art Designing and making playgrounds Cookery (second half of term) Forest School (first half of term)
PE	Multi skills; Parachute games
Computing	We are photographers We are researchers
Music	Round and Round Friendship song

Homework

A reminder that all children are given their **Maths homework** on Mathletics on a Monday along with a **reading comprehension task or Reading eggs activity**. Children are expected to have completed this (normally 2 activities) by the following Monday. They will also bring new **spellings** home on a Monday and these need to

be returned the following Monday with spellings practised ready for their test. Please ensure your child practises their spellings in their spelling book **3 times** interspersed throughout the time period and writes their sentences in the book so I am able to see their progression.

Reading books

It is important to continue reading at least three times a week with your child and to discuss the book with them. Please sign your child's reading diary to let us know how that is going.. **We are relaunching our class reading challenge, with a prize of extra play for the class with the highest % of children reading 3 times or more in a week.**

For those children who are reluctant to read try the following:

- Try reading first thing in the morning when your child is not too tired.
- You **do not** have to read the **whole** book in one go. Read only two pages if necessary but work hard to break down the letters and sound them out.
- Tell your child they are going to be the teacher; you sound out a word and get them to correct you.
- If a child is finding it tricky you sound out the word for them, get them to repeat it and say it together.
- Read a page for them and then ask them to read the next page.

Please also read to your child as this is a lovely activity which children enjoy and helps engender a love of reading and books.

Helper update

We would value parent helpers to listen to our children read regularly. This is of such benefit to young children and a wonderful way to see what happens within the class. If you are DBS checked and could volunteer 15 – 30 minutes of your time once a week, we would love to see you. Preferred times are 9 -915/30 am or 2.30/40 – 3.00 p.m. Please come and speak to me if you can volunteer. If you are not DBS checked, it is a quick and easy process so do ask at the Office to have one completed.

Thank you for all your support last term with homework and all the work you do with your children at home. We are looking forward to another school term.

Miss Croft and Mrs Rosello