

# High Littleton C. of E. Primary School, High Littleton, Bristol BS39 6HF

Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

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Head Teacher: Mr Gareth Griffith



Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Otter Parents,

Happy New Year and welcome back to Term 3! I hope that you all enjoyed your Christmas break and would like to thank you so much for all the kind Christmas cards, wishes and generous gifts; all much appreciated. I am still dusting away all the Christmas magic and excitement, while enjoying the last few days of our Christmas tree. Although it's a relatively short term, it will be busy and filled with exciting learning opportunities. I am looking forward to the next chapter of our journey!

In **Maths** we will focus on multiplication and division, including mental and formal written methods, multiplying and dividing by multiples of 10, correspondence and scaling. We will also explore Length and perimeter, including measuring in km and m and exploring equivalent lengths, calculating a perimeter of rectilinear shapes and polygons; before we move onto fractions: investigating unit fractions, non-unit fractions, improper fractions, mixed numbers, converting between them, and also adding and subtracting fractions.

Please remember that learning times tables Year 4 is paramount! Quick and secure recall of multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to  $12 \times 12$  (which is expected by The National Curriculum by the end of year 4) will equip the children to confidently approach all aspects of Maths. We will be practising daily by revisiting each times table individually and using online programmes. It is essential that you also practise times tables at home. There are plenty of apps you can download onto a tablet that can make learning more fun. All support in this area will be greatly appreciated.

Please enable your child to access **Doodle Maths and Doodle Tables** regularly. Collecting 50 points on Doodle Maths and 30 points on Doodle Tables is expected weekly (from Monday to Friday) and will be monitored every Monday. If you have a problem accessing a computer at home, please let me know. This is the only Maths homework for Otter Class this year and, like all the other pieces of homework, will be rewarded with Dojo points.

In **History** we will be exploring the Roman Empire and its impact on Britain, focusing on understanding the chronology of the Roman invasion of Britain, identifying the consequences of the Roman invasion and exploring who Boudicca was. We will be trying to understand why the Roman army was so successful through identifying a soldier's equipment, explaining how the Roman army was organised and even performing simple manoeuvres and drills. Examining artefacts will help us to answer some of the important historical enquiries. Finally, we will also explain the meaning of legacy, identifying how the Romans changed Britain.

*"Love each other as I have loved you" John 15:12*



In **Science** this term we will be learning about Rocks and Soil, which will include observing the appearance and physical properties of rocks and comparing and grouping different rock samples. We will learn about how fossils and soils are formed and record soil drainage rates in a bar chart. Hopefully, it will help us to appreciate the world around us even more.

**Reading:** We are still aiming for children to read regularly at home (hopefully they are choosing to read for pleasure on a daily basis) so please do continue to listen/read to them regularly. Any 'book discussion' will also help to deepen their comprehension skills and if you can challenge your child further by reading 'tricky' books to them, that would be fantastic - not only in terms of comprehension but to effectively develop and extend their own vocabulary.

Otters have taken another Star Reader baseline test at the end of term 2. Their reading range (ZPD) might have changed slightly so please check that they are choosing the right books. I have updated them on the front cover of children's Reading Records. Although children are encouraged to choose their books independently, myself and Mrs Richards will provide some guidance in this process when necessary.

All children will have the opportunity to read in school to an adult: in small groups and individually throughout the term. In class, we have just finished *The Lion Above the Door* by Onjali Q Raúf. Next, we will read *The pebble in my pocket* by Meredith Hooper to support our learning in Science. Then we will move to one of my favourite classics: *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hedgson Burnett.

#### **Reminder of weekly routines:**

**PE** will be on Wednesday (Fitness with myself) and Friday (Basketball with Mrs Mac). Please make sure that children wear weather appropriate clothing on those days, like long tracksuit bottoms or leggings.

**English homework (Spellings)** will be given out on **Fridays** to be handed in the following **Thursday**. The children will be tested every week. Please encourage your child to practise daily or a few times a week to ensure sound recall of those rules and patterns.

Please remember to bring a named and fresh filled **water bottle** to school **every day** and a fruit snack for morning break.

**Wet weather** gear. Please ensure your child has wellies and waterproofs for those wet, rainy days.

As always, please feel free to contact me if there are ever any concerns or issues you wish to discuss.

Best wishes,

Ania Woods  
Class Teacher

***"Love each other as I have loved you" John 15:12***

