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Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership



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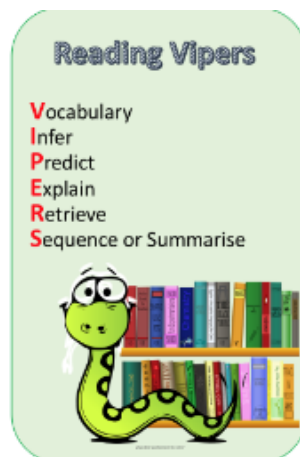
Friday 19th April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! Hopefully you've had a great Easter holiday together - we really cannot believe we're starting term 5 already!

Reading

In Fox Class, we continue to promote reading for pleasure, throughout the school day. Specific weekly lessons focus on comprehension skills (using the VIPERS approach) alongside daily opportunities to share a range of books/sections of a text in a variety of ways, including: 1:1 adult or peer support, small group sessions and a particular favourite for the children - whole class texts. This term we are continuing our whole class chapter book 'Arihi and the Island of Wonders' (Nicola Davies), which has really captured the children's imaginations and inspiring good quality discussion of plot and vocabulary, whilst drawing comparisons with the familiar tale of Moana.



Children should bring their book bag in every day and reading books will continue to be sent home and changed each week. If your child is now following our Accelerated Reader Scheme (AR) they are encouraged to complete a quiz as soon as their AR book is completed: this further supports our monitoring of the children's comprehension and progress.

Please continue to support us by reading with your child at home as much as possible (at least 3 times a week) with a small note in their Reading Record to confirm which books have been read successfully. This helps us immensely in terms of efficient changing of books/allocating quizzes - which we're sure you appreciate can be very time consuming, for 28 children of this age.

At this stage of learning, it is always beneficial to continue to remind our children of their phonics skills and application, for both reading and spelling. As we no longer have formal daily phonics sessions, it's useful to recall and 'spot digraphs' in books that can make two or more different sounds



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


Writing

We'll be continuing to use The Write Stuff's FANTASTICS, GRAMMERISTICS and BOOMTASTICS

The FANTASTICS:

F	A	N	T	A	S	T	I	C
								
Feelings	Asking (dialogue)	Noticing	Touching	Action	Smelling	Tasting	Imagining	Checking (hearing)

The GRAMMERISTICS:

								
Adverbials	Basics	Complex sentences	Dialogue/com tracted forms	Purpose	Paragraphs	Passive/active voice	Tenses	Punctuation

The BOOMTASTICS:

								
Onomatopoeia	Alliteration	Rhyme	Repetition	Similes	Metaphor	Pathetic fallacy	Fun	Personification

The unit we will be exploring is: *Little Red Reading Hood* by Lucy Rowland. We will be focusing on storytelling and the children's independent writing will be based on this text. This term we will be looking at poetry and specifically the poem: *If I was in charge of the world*.

Spelling

'Show me' style spelling tests continue during our **Friday** English lessons - the children typically love the opportunity to share proudly what they have learnt and practised at home. This is followed by activities to introduce the next week's rule/patterns and homework based on these new words are sent home that day. Homework books are collected the following **Thursday** and if work is completed, Dojos are given as a reward.

Maths

We are so impressed with the effort and success the Foxes have made with their Doodle Maths homework - Let's keep this up! Please encourage your children to access this at home when on their electronic devices. These are fun games that don't take too much time to complete. To be a confident mathematician, children should have a quick recall of their known facts such as number bonds to 10, 20 and 100. The children have learned lots of fun ways to draw mathematical pictures to support their understanding and problem solving skills - we are sure they would love to share these with you!

This term we have a 'real life' focus for our daily lessons; we will be learning about fractions and time. If you can, please use opportunities at home to help us consolidate these maths skills. Questions such as:

- ★ What fraction of this cake would you like? If I share the cake equally between 3 of us - what fraction would we each get?
- ★ What's the time? How long until we need to leave for school? How long until bedtime?
- ★ If I have 50p to buy this 25p sweet - how much change will I get? If the ball costs £1.50 how much will 2 balls cost? How do you know? Which coins/notes could I use to pay for this?



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Wider Curriculum

As Historians this term, the children will be learning all about how communication has changed over time; learning about hieroglyphics, morse code and the invention of the telephone and world wide web.

As Scientists, the children will build upon their existing knowledge of Living Things. Making links to previous topics, we will explore concepts such as: alive/dead/never alive, moving on to consider Plants in our environment - what they need to survive and to grow. We also have an exciting opportunity to really bring this year's Science learning to life - through a class trip to Westonbirt Arboretum - a separate letter will follow soon.

In Art, we will be practising a range of Art and Design skills, including clay, painting and shading.

In RE, we will be learning about Judaism and The Torah.

Computing will focus on making coding and as musicians, the children will be exploring a unit called The Friendship Song.

In PSHE we will be exploring 'Relationships' through our Friday afternoon Jigsaw sessions. The children will explore the interactions we have with those around us: family and friends, building confidence to establish and enjoy positive relationships

PE this term will be Net and Wall Games on a Wednesday with Ms Cornish and Athletics on a Friday, with Mrs Laura Macdonald.

Please ensure long hair is tied back always but especially on these days - and that earrings are able to be removed or covered.

Reminders

- Please remember to send your child with fruit and vegetables for their morning snack.
- Please ensure that all property in school is labelled with your child's name, particularly jumpers, PE kits, water bottles, wellies and fruit pots.
- Although we have in theory reached the 'Summer' terms, please do still send your child to school with a coat especially if the forecast is even slightly wet/chilly - as you know we are an OPAL school and therefore playtimes are outside unless the weather is too extreme.

Of course, if you have any questions or queries about your child at any time, please do not hesitate to speak to one of us or arrange to see us at a time that is convenient - just email the school office and we will get back to you.

Yours sincerely

Louise Cornish and Claire Richardson
Fox Class Teachers



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