

# 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



Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Term 2! I hope you have all enjoyed the well-deserved (and much needed!) half-term break. It was wonderful to be able to meet so many of you in person during our Parents' Evenings. I hope that being able to see your children's work books and their classroom helped you to understand better what we do and how we work together. I will be contacting you this term with regards to any queries you might have made during your meeting.

As always, it will be an eventful and busy term. Traditionally, children will be sitting their first NFER tests in this academic year. We also begin the countdown to Christmas! We have so much to look forward to: a theatre trip, Christmas Art Day, carol concerts, parties, Christmas service and, of course, our beloved nativity.

**Reading:** Otters took another Star Reader baseline test in the last week of Term 1. Their reading range (ZPD) might have changed slightly so please check that they are choosing the right books. Each child is expected to have a reading book to read at home and in school within their ZPD range (I have written inside of their Reading Records). Please make sure that all children also bring in their Reading Records to school daily.

Children are encouraged to choose their books independently. Adults will, however, assist some of the children in this process. After completing their book, a comprehension test is available for them to check their understanding. It is recommended to take the comprehension test as soon as possible after completing a book at home or in school.

Although all children will have the opportunity to read in school to an adult: in small groups and individually throughout the term, please ensure that you hear your child read at home regularly. As often as possible, please encourage your child to talk to you about the book they are reading, ask them questions about the chapter/passage they have read to you. This shared interest will help towards developing their love of reading for pleasure. In class, we will be reading *Malala: My Story of Standing Up for Girls' Rights* to inform our independent writing this term and we will be finishing *The Beetle Boy* by M G Leonard.

**Spelling:** We will carry on with focusing on different spelling patterns or rules each week. **Spelling lists and an activity/activities to apply this learning will be given out on Friday to be handed in the following Thursday.** The children will be tested every week and the handed in Homework Books will be checked weekly. Please encourage your child to practise daily or a few times a week to ensure sound recall of those rules and patterns. To further support them, children will also be given time in school to practise their spellings. It is also a fantastic opportunity for all Otters to gather Dojo points.

**Maths:** This term we will be focusing on Measurement and Multiplication and Division units respectively. Multiplication and Division will continue into term 3. As mathematicians we will be developing our fluency and reasoning skills daily.

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



Below, you can find the list of objectives for each unit of work.

Area	Multiplication and division A	Multiplication and division B
<p><b>Step 1</b> What is area?</p> <p><b>Step 2</b> Count squares</p> <p><b>Step 3</b> Make shapes</p> <p><b>Step 4</b> Compare areas</p>	<p><b>Step 1</b> Multiples of 3</p> <p><b>Step 2</b> Multiply and divide by 6</p> <p><b>Step 3</b> 6 times-table and division facts</p> <p><b>Step 4</b> Multiply and divide by 9</p> <p><b>Step 5</b> 9 times-table and division facts</p> <p><b>Step 6</b> The 3, 6 and 9 times-tables</p> <p><b>Step 7</b> Multiply and divide by 7</p> <p><b>Step 8</b> 7 times-table and division facts</p> <p><b>Step 9</b> 11 times-table and division facts</p> <p><b>Step 10</b> 12 times-table and division facts</p> <p><b>Step 11</b> Multiply by 1 and 0</p> <p><b>Step 12</b> Divide a number by 1 and itself</p> <p><b>Step 13</b> Multiply three numbers</p>	<p><b>Step 1</b> Factor pairs</p> <p><b>Step 2</b> Use factor pairs</p> <p><b>Step 3</b> Multiply by 10</p> <p><b>Step 4</b> Multiply by 100</p> <p><b>Step 5</b> Divide by 10</p> <p><b>Step 6</b> Divide by 100</p> <p><b>Step 7</b> Related facts – multiplication and division</p>

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.

It's been wonderful to observe how much the children have improved their recall of times tables already, in such a short space of time. It fills me with hope that by June all Otters will be able to pass their Multiplication Tables Check.

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Enabling and encouraging your child to access **Doodle Maths and Doodle Tables** regularly will most certainly benefit the children. Collecting 50 points on Doodle Maths and 30 points on Doodle Tables is expected weekly 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.

**History:** Otters will find out what happened in Britain after the Romans left in the 5<sup>th</sup> century. Using the mysterious burial ship at Sutton Hoo as a basis, we will explore where the Anglo-Saxons came from, how they came to settle in Britain, who the Picts and Scots of the north were, how Christianity became the predominant religion. We will be reading 'Beowulf' - an epic English poem - during this topic to help us really immerse in the learning and help our understanding of this period of history.

In **Science** Otters will learn to make a simple electrical circuit, using bulbs, motors and switches and record them pictorially. We will conduct observations to work out the effects of adding a switch and multiple bulbs to a circuit, and find out how to arrange a circuit in order for a bulb to light. We will learn about conductors and insulators, focusing on metals being good conductors. Most importantly, we will try to understand how electrical appliances are powered and explore how to be safe around electricity.

Below are just a few reminders to ensure the smooth running of Otter Class.

- **PE** will be on Monday (Gymnastics with myself) and Thursday (Netball with Mrs Mac), so please make sure your child comes to school wearing their PE kit on those days.
- Please remember to bring a named and fresh filled **water bottle** to school **every day** and a fruit snack for morning break.
- Please make sure that your child has a waterproof jacket in school every day. Being an Opal school, we go outside in all weathers.

I look forward to our next busy term together. It has been great to be able to get to know all the Otters and I can't wait to continue this exciting journey. It is time to, again, try our best, bravely take on new challenges, make more marvellous mistakes, learn and develop even further.

Yours sincerely,

Ania Woods  
Class Teacher

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