

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
**ENSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL**



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Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas break and are looking forward to a new year and a busy Spring term. Please do read this letter carefully as it will inform you of some of the exciting topics coming up over the next few months, including a class trip!

### Literacy

This term, we will be taking inspiration from books such as *'Kasia's Surprise'* by Stella Gurney and *'Fantastic Mr Fox'* by Roald Dahl, as well as some non-fiction texts all about big cats. The exciting vocabulary and vivid storytelling found in these texts will help to enrich the students' own writing whilst developing their analytical and comprehension skills. Lessons will concentrate on the teaching of writing with a sharp focus on the craft and construction of sentences.

### Spelling

This term we will look at a variety of high frequency words, spelling rules and common exception words. For the Year 3 children we will continue to focus on words and patterns from the statutory list for Y3/4. It is important that the words set for homework are regularly practised and we greatly appreciate your support with this.

### Reading

Our wish is for the children to develop a love for reading so that they are self-motivated to read every day. It is our role as adults to encourage them to want to read and to teach them the pleasures of reading. Reading can improve concentration, help mental wellbeing and introduce the children to new vocabulary that they can use in their own writing.

We ask that the children read aloud to an **adult at home** at least **three times a week** and encourage you to discuss the book, ask them questions about what is happening and see if they can make predictions about what might happen next. Please send the children's current reading book and reading diary into school every day so that we can send home new books when necessary. Please see below for guidance on when books will be changed:

**Phonics Bug** – please read the whole book three times – the first for decoding, the second for greater fluency and the third for fluency and comprehension.

**Oxford Reading Tree Stage 6 and onwards** – please read whole book once.

**Free choice reading books** – please read whole book once.



## Maths

Over the two Spring terms our units include **Multiplication & Division, Length and Perimeter and Fractions**. The children will explore each unit with a mastery approach to develop their mathematical fluency and problem-solving skills. Learning times tables helps children see patterns in numbers and understand how numbers work together, rather than just counting one by one. This strong foundation makes later maths—such as division, fractions, and problem-solving—much easier and builds confidence as maths becomes more challenging. We use a fun, engaging online programme called **'Times Table Rockstars'** to help with this important skill – children's login details will be inside their reading diaries so they can access the programme at home.

## Class trip

As part of our history topic on the Romans in the second half of this term, we have a class trip planned on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March** to **Chedworth Roman Villa**. More information will be provided nearer the time.

## P.E.

P.E. takes place on a Wednesday and Thursday afternoon. Please ensure that P.E kits are kept in school at all times. P.E kits should comprise of a blue school t-shirt, navy shorts, a sweatshirt, tracksuit bottoms and trainers. Spare socks are also useful to have, especially during wetter, muddier months.

## Homework

Homework in Windrush consists of maths and spelling activities. These activities are designed to reinforce the objectives your child has been working on in class. Children working on the **year 3 curriculum** now have a brand new CGP maths homework book and the pages to be completed will be clearly indicated each week. Spelling homework will be sent out in folders as before.

Homework is given out on a Friday and should be handed in the following Thursday. Please encourage the children to keep their folders and CGP books safely in their book bags - CGP books will need to be replaced if lost. If your child experiences any issues with their homework, please encourage them to come and ask for help from either myself or another member of the Windrush staff team.

## Dojo Challenge

Children will continue to receive their dojo points for each piece of homework that is handed in on time; a maximum of 3 points can be achieved every week, one each for reading, spelling and maths.

We hope that you find this information helpful. If you have any questions, please contact the school office on: [office.2103@enstone.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.2103@enstone.oxon.sch.uk)

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs B. Callaghan*

Class Teacher

