

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ENSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the Christmas holiday. This term is a short one and there is an awful lot to pack in, including the House Festival and World Book Day. Here are some of the important things you need to know for the Spring Term.

CURRICULUM

This term's topic is a history topic called: ***What was the impact of World War 2 on the people of Britain?*** This focuses on the Blitz, including the Battle of Britain, the role of women in the war and the evacuation of children. We then move on to a geography topic called: ***What is life like in the Alps?*** This will include studying the physical and human geography of the area and investigating why people visit.

As previously advised, our Eco topic this academic year is **"Global Citizenship"**. We are hoping to have a school trip this term, to visit a waste recycling plant. More information to follow when we have sorted out the details.

HOMEWORK

Homework arrangements are outlined below and remain mostly similar to last term.

A reminder that **all children must bring a book-bag to school every day** so that they can keep their homework and reading books safe. This will also help ensure these things are not lost and assist the children in organising everything and getting it handed in on time.

Log-ins for the children's online accounts such as TTRS or Purple Mash will be found in the front of their maths folders or books.

Spelling

Spelling homework: This will be collected in on a Monday and sent out on a Wednesday.

Maths

Maths homework will continue to be set on Wednesdays and collected in the following Monday.

Maths homework will now be set using a CGP study book. Please look after this carefully, as if it is lost, we will have to ask you to buy a replacement copy.

Literacy

Literacy homework will be set only for children in the **HERONS GROUP**. This will either be an exercise on punctuation/grammar or a reading response activity.



Reading

Reading homework is to read at least four times a week and to record this in their reading diaries; this should include reading aloud to an adult at least once a week – more frequently if your child is not yet reading fluently and independently.

Reading records will be checked on a Monday morning. This term the children will have the challenge of reading the books from the **Oxfordshire Book Awards** and voting for their favourite one at the end of term. The challenge aims to encourage the children to explore new authors and genres and really engage with the joys of reading for pleasure.

It is very important that your child does not put off doing homework until the evening before it is due in, so that if they have difficulties, they have time to discuss issues with us or seek extra clarification or help with a task. The children are encouraged to seek help independently from their class teacher and as they are given a week to complete most tasks, they will have plenty of time in which to do this. They are also given the chance to go to **Homework Club** which is run on a **Thursday lunchtime**.

DOJO points

Dojo points will be awarded each week. HERONS have a chance to achieve a maximum of 4 points each week, and OTTERS 3 points each week as they don't have the additional Literacy homework. Dojo points targets will therefore vary between the Otters and Herons groups, and the children will be aware of this. We will have our Golden Time afternoon in Term 4.

YEAR 6 SAT's homework

Year 6 will find that they receive alternative as well as sometimes additional homework in the second half of this term in preparation for the SATs in May. This may include a weekly reading comprehension and maths paper. In Term 3, they will also be given CGP maths, punctuation and grammar booklets for many of their homework activities. We will be speaking to the children about this and reminding them that this will be for a limited period only and will help them to revise and build their confidence.

P.E.

P.E. lessons are usually on a Tuesday and Wednesday; however, this could be subject to change so please ensure that your child has a full kit in school every day. The kit should include plain navy-blue school shorts, a school P.E. T-Shirt, navy tracksuit bottoms and a warm navy jumper or fleece. Trainers are also essential. Please remind your children that if they stay for a sports club after school and wear their P.E. kit home, they need to remember to bring it back in the next day. This term the Year 4s and 5s, plus Year 6s in the booster group will need their swimming kit on a Tuesday. We will also be doing some hockey in our P.E. lessons so if your child has some shin pads and a mouth guard please can they bring them to school.

We hope this information is helpful for you. Don't forget, you can always arrange to pop in for a chat with us if you have any questions or concerns, or if your child is having difficulties with schoolwork or homework. We operate an open-door policy and can often speak to you straight away, although it is better to make an appointment for any longer conversations.

We look forward to a happy and productive term with Evenlode Class.

Yours sincerely,

S West and L Walsh

Evenlode Class teachers

