

Swallow Class Newsletter

Term 3

Dear parents,

I'd like to welcome you all back to school for the beginning of Term 3. I hope you had a marvellous Christmas and New Year celebration and thank you for your kind and generous Christmas gifts and wishes.

Enquiry

This term we will be finishing a scientist and geography focussed enquiry titled "What is underneath our feet?" Children will continue to learn about key aspects of physical geography, like volcanoes and tectonic plates. They will also learn about different types of rocks and how to record scientific findings. After that we will consider a historian focused enquiry titled "Why did people travel in the past?" where we will focus on explorers throughout history and the reasons why and methods people used to travel.

Author

Our author work this term will be inspired by "Elf Road" and follows the schools Talk for writing structure. This will engage children to write a narrative and explore how to innovate their own ideas following a warning story structure. We will also write biographies about famous explorers.

Mathematician

It is important that Year 4 children begin to engage with the multiplication tables check resources online in preparation for their check in June. Children will be expected to answer 25 multiplication questions with a 6 second time limit for each question. <https://urbrainy.com/mtc/test#> matches the test where children can select the digits using a mouse or enter the numbers using the keyboard. I recommend that the children get use to using the keyboard to enter the digits for their answers as this saves time. If you have any questions about this please do not hesitate to ask.

PE

PE this term will be dance on a Wednesday and Thursday Please ensure children come to school in appropriate kit. Details of this can be found on the school website. <https://hawkesburyprimaryschool.co.uk/school-info/uniform/>

Reading

Children need to read 5 times a week for at least 10 minutes. This is to be recorded in reading records and signed by parents. On Fridays we will review how many times the children have read during a week and add this to our class charts. Children have been reminded to put reading books along with reading records at the back of the class so they can be safely changed.

Homework

Homework is due in every THURSDAY this term with protected time to discuss any issues children have with the topics set. Children should complete 1 page in both their Maths and SPAG textbooks. These should be marked at home so that we can address common errors and misunderstandings in class.

DUE 11th January (UP TO AND INCLUDING)	Year 3	Year 4
Maths	Page 22 – Mental addition	Page 22 – Written addition
SPAG	Page 22 + 23 – Conjunctions with Subordinate clauses	Page 22 + 23 - Conjunctions

Spelling

All children will go home from school on **Thursday 4th January** with their spelling list. On it will be detailed 5 spellings they will learn and the week these will be taught in school. Every Friday the children will sit an informal test to check how they have learnt their new spellings and retain their understanding of the previous spelling rules.

Mr Riley

We have been very lucky to be supported by Mr Riley, a PGCE student from UWE, for the past term. Mr Riley will continue to teach and support in Swallow Class until the end of January when we will return to university. The children and I are very grateful for all the support Mr Riley has offered us during his time and he will be missed when he leaves us.

Please get in contact if you have any questions or wish to discuss anything further.

Best Wishes,
Mr Alec Bryant