



Welcome back to Chestnut Class, and Happy New Year; I hope everyone had a great Christmas! Please find below details of the weekly timetable and information about homework, spelling and other things which have changed a little.

PE

PE will be on Mondays and Thursdays. Please ensure children have the correct kit at school - lessons will be inside until at least half term. Children should take their PE kits home each Friday and bring them back the following week.

Spellings

Spellings will be tested on Mondays, and children will be expected to achieve 8/10. In addition, children will continue to be set words from the 100 word list which will be tested on a half termly basis. There are a number of effective strategies to help learn tricky words - these will be reinforced to children and another copy sent home to refer to.

Mental maths

Times tables form an integral part of the maths we cover in upper key stage 2, and children should be fluent in their times tables and related division facts. Additional support will be provided for children who have not finished learning their times tables, but please work with them at home to support them in catching up as soon as possible. There will be weekly mental maths tests on Mondays, with children expected to achieve 15/20 - the focus for these will be outlined the week before to enable children to practise at home.

Reading

Reading will be taught following the *Destination Reader* approach across the school. This will ensure your child has the opportunity to read on a daily basis, and will read both within groups and individually. Reading strategies will be taught and practised in class, and it is really important that you continue to hear your child read at home regularly, as regular practice will help them develop into confident readers who understand what they read. Talking about what they have read and asking questions is a great way to help engage with what they have read and to boost their comprehension. Please try to hear your child read at least 4 times a week, and initial or comment in their student planner. Children who read four or more times will be entered into a 'reading raffle' with prizes drawn at the end of each half term.

Homework

To support their learning, children will be set homework which will help consolidate what they have been working on in class. Homework will be set on a Friday to be handed in on a Thursday. Whilst children are encouraged to work independently on this, please ensure that you check your child's work prior to the hand in date to ensure that it is accurate. If they are unsure how to complete homework, they should let me know on the Monday so I can make time to explain or provide further help. Year 6 children will be given additional workbooks to support them on the run up to SATs, and work from these will be set as part of their weekly homework.

If you have any questions about anything that we will be covering this term, don't hesitate to come and ask!

Thanks,

Mr. Singleton