

# Roydon Primary School



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January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and that the children are ready for a busy term. We thought it would be useful to give you some information about the organisation of your child's class, as well as curriculum content for this term.

English and Maths will continue to be set by ability. The sets are varied in size so that the third set has a greater teacher/pupil ratio.

In case you didn't know, the set teachers are as follows:-

	<b>Maths</b>	<b>English</b>
Set 1	Mr Santy	Miss Stannard
Set 2	Miss Stannard	Mrs McClure
Set 3	Mrs McClure	Mr Santy

Science is taught by Mrs Playford for both classes one afternoon per week.

## Curriculum Content

Maths	Place value (Th, H, T, U), Multiplication, Division, Money, Fractions, Decimals, Percentages, Shape, Angles, Measures, Addition, Subtraction, Data Handling.
English	Biography/Autobiography, Stories, Play scripts, Descriptive Writing, Poetry, Diaries, Letters, Persuasive Writing, Non chronological writing.
Science	Light
History	The Victorians including the reign of Queen Victoria, workhouses, schools, inventions and reforms
I.C.T.	Imovie, Photo Editing, Sound Recording
R.E.	Suffering
Music	Old Time Musical Hall
Art	Portraits, The work of William Morris
French	Animals, Months and Birthdays, Sport
P.E.	Thurs. - Year 5 - Swimming, Year 6 - Young Sports Leaders Course Fri. - Games - Football, Hockey and Badminton

## P.E.

Games will continue to take place outside so warm clothes are needed. We recommend a sweat shirt and jogging bottoms. Please provide your child with a plastic bag to take home muddy trainers. We know that some children do not like wearing plimsolls, but they are a **MUST** for indoor P.E., along with white T- shirts and shorts.

P.E. kit must be named and should be brought in at the start of the week so that it is available if a timetable change occurs.

## Homework

Homework will be the same as last term; we follow the Government recommendations that Year 5 and 6 children have 30 minutes per night. The timetable is as follows:-



Monday	Reading (15mins) Spellings (10mins) Tables (5mins)
Tuesday	Maths - to be handed in on Thursday
Wednesday	Reading (15mins) Spellings (10mins) Tables (5mins)
Thursday	Reading (15mins) Spellings (10mins) Tables (5mins)
Friday	English or topic work - to be handed in on Tuesday

Some children like to do longer written assignments (and some do not!!). We try to balance this by giving extended homework projects as well as weekly ones. This half term the children will be asked to write their own autobiography. Written guidelines outlining our expectations will be given to the children and will also be on the website. Please encourage your child to work on this regularly and not leave it to the last minute.

**DEADLINE** for completion is **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February.**

To help children prepare for home work deadlines at High School, and to enable us to mark work, we ask that you encourage your child to complete assignments and bring it to school on time. If work is not done children will be expected to complete it at lunchtime and will also lose some "golden time."

## Maths

This term we will be doing some work on "time." This will involve reading timetables on a 12 and 24 hour clock and calculating hours and minutes between one time and another.

*E.g. Susan gets on a train at 13.45. Her journey to London lasts 1 hour 50minutes. What time does she arrive if the train is on time?*

There are many children who cannot tell the time on either an analogue or digital clock. If you have the odd minute (no pun intended!) you could really help your child by asking them to tell you the time.

You could extend this to questions like...

*It is 10.35am. We will leave for swimming in 40 minutes. What time will we go?*

Or...

*It is 16.20. Football will be on TV at 19.15. How long before it starts?*



## Reading

Children should be encouraged to read for at least 15 minutes per day.



This term we have launched the "Roydon Reading Challenge." All the children will be asked to try to read at home at least twice a day (as well as reading at school).

They will have a "Book Worm" card that needs to be signed by you when they have read, either to themselves or an adult. We have compiled the "Roydon Top 50 story books" which can be viewed on our website: [www.roydonprimary.co.uk](http://www.roydonprimary.co.uk).

Although children in Year 5 and 6 are more likely to read to themselves, it is **still** beneficial for them to read out loud, as it helps with fluency, expression and intonation.

Discussing the content of books they have read with an adult is also of **enormous** benefit. This will include asking basic questions about the text, then more searching questions to show children understand vocabulary and can read "between the lines."

Listed below are some ideas about how you can do this.

These are some questions from an imaginary book, but could be applied to other books.

1. Why was Alan scared? How do you know this?
2. How old do you think Fred was? How do you know?
3. Did the boy get on well with his brother? Give your reasons, using the story to help you.
4. Using the text explain how the Alan felt when he was left behind.
5. Give 3 examples that show Mark was a brave boy.
6. What sort of person do you think Mary was?
7. "The boy snaked his way through the crowds."  
Why do you think the author used the word "snaked" to describe the boy's movements?
8. Tom Barton was an **impatient** man. Find some examples in the text that show this?
9. Did you like the story? Make **reference to the text** saying why you did or didn't. (it is good/boring is not acceptable!!)

We will study "Oliver Twist" as part of our Victorian topic. The children will be encouraged to find out more about Charles Dickens and to read any of his other books.

## Spellings

This term we will have regular phonic lessons - children will be split into 7 ability groups that will work on different sounds and spelling rules.

Spelling lists will continue to be given on a Friday and tested the following Friday. A reminder of the method of learning is in the front of the children's spelling books.

## SATs WEEK

Year 6 take SATs in the week of May 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> and it is essential that children are at school every day, not only during SATs week, but in the weeks leading up to SATs week as well. There will be an information evening about SATs on **Thursday, 5th March at 7.00pm.** More information to follow.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to come and see us.

Happy New Year!

Dawn Stannard, Joe Santy and Vicki McClure