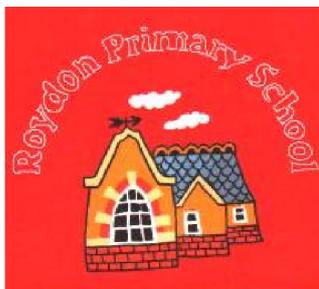


Roydon Primary School



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17th January 2018

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:-

Set	Maths	English
1	Mr Santy	Mr Gillen
2	Miss Leftley	Miss Leftley
3	Mr Gillen	Mr Santy

Our two topics this term are **Ancient Egypt** and **Rivers**.

Curriculum content:

Maths	Place value (Th, H, T, U), Multiplication, Division, Money, Fractions, Decimals, Percentages, Shape, Angles, Measures, Addition, Subtraction, Data Handling.
English	Diary reports, Instructions, Letters, Persuasive Writing, Poetry, Non-chronological writing
Science	Water cycle, Animals and their habitats
History	Ancient Egypt study
Geography	Map work and rivers
PE	Dance, Badminton, Hockey, Cross Country, Swimming (Year 5 & some Year 6)
French	Ma Famille, Le Corps
RE	Hinduism - Vishnu, Gandhi
Art	Ancient Egypt papyrus, portraits, clay
DT	Food

Headteacher: Mrs S.H. Bradford

Deputy Headteacher: Miss D.K. Stannard

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. Children may wear indoor trainers for indoor P.E., along with a white T-shirt and black shorts. P.E. kit must be named and, although we have PE on Thursdays (Year 6) and Fridays (all), both kits should be brought in on Mondays in case a timetable change occurs.

Year 5s and some Year 6s will swim every Thursday and they will need a bag containing a swimming costume, towel, swimming hat (as specified by Diss Swimming Pool) and goggles if they wish to use them. All earrings must be removed.

Homework

We know that homework is a contentious subject; some parents do not want it, others want more! We aim to 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 homework (to be handed in on Thursday)
Wednesday	Reading (15mins) Spellings (10mins) Tables (5mins)
Thursday	Reading (15mins) Spellings (10mins) Tables (5mins)
Friday	English homework (to be handed in on Tuesday)

NOTE: Sometimes children will be set a homework assignment to be completed over a period of weeks. In all cases children are given an information sheet outlining expectations and a deadline date.

To help children prepare for homework deadlines at high school and to enable us to mark work, we ask that you encourage your child to complete assignments and bring them to school on time. If work is not done, children will be expected to complete it at lunchtime and/or have Dojo marks deducted.

Reading

It would be appreciated if you could encourage your child to read at home. All children have a Reading Record Book to indicate the reading they have done each day. If you could spare the time to listen to them and discuss the content of what they have read, the benefits would be enormous and this includes confident, fluent readers. Children read in school in lots of different ways. They may read individually to a teacher, teaching assistant or adult helper, they may take part in a guided reading session or be asked to read something to the rest of

the class, sometimes they will be given a book in their English set and asked to read it at home or in class; whatever they do, it all helps to develop their reading skills.

Some children still need some extra help and if anyone can spare some time to come into school to listen to readers it would be much appreciated. If you can't help but know someone who can (friend, grandparent, neighbour) please put them in contact with us. It does not have to be for a whole afternoon - it could be just for the last 20 minutes of the day, or during registration - 10 minutes per day, several times a week can make a HUGE difference.

Discussing the content of book they have read with an adult is also important. This will include asking basic questions about the text, then more searching questions to show they understand vocabulary and can read "between the lines." Listed below are some ideas about how you can do this. These are questions from an imaginary book but could be applied to other texts.

1. Find 3 words in the story that mean Fred was happy.
2. Did the boy get on well with his brother? Give your reasons, using the story to help you.
3. The old man told the boy not to fish in the lake. Why do you think he said this?
4. How old do you think Fred was? How do you know?
5. What time of day was it? How does the story tell you this?
6. Why was Fred frightened?
7. What sort of person do you think Mary was?
8. "Instantly the spider pounces." Why do you think the author used the word "pounces" to describe the spider's movements?
9. Mr Jones was a determined man. Find some examples in the text that show this?
10. Did you like the story? Make reference to the text saying why you did or didn't (it is good/boring is not acceptable!!)

Spellings

Spellings will normally be given on a Monday and tested on Friday. A reminder of the method of learning is in the front of all spelling books.

Parents Evening

Our Year 6 parents' evening will take place on Tuesday 20th February. The Year 5 parents' evening will take place later in the year. More details will follow soon to explain this change in arrangements for reporting children's attainment and progress to parents.

SATs:

Year 6 children sit their SATs during the week beginning 14th May 2018. A huge amount of preparatory work goes on in the weeks preceding this so please make sure your child is in school every day unless they really are too ill to attend.

P.T.O.

**PLEASE DO NOT BOOK HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME
BETWEEN JANUARY AND MAY.**

It is also important that your child is in school during SATs week as the tests cannot be taken at other times.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us. Looking forward to a busy and exciting term.

Joe Santy, Gordon Gillen, Jo Leftley and Lynn Collis