

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you and your family had a relaxing, enjoyable Christmas and that your children are ready to get back to school.

Thank you ever so much for all the Christmas cards and gifts I received prior to the holidays. It was very, very kind of you!

Although it may not feel like it, we are now in the Spring term. I am thoroughly looking forward to the topics that we will be studying over the coming weeks and I'm sure the children will be too. Please take a few minutes to read this letter that contains some useful information.

Reading and spelling

The children will continue to be urged to note down every occasion that they read at home and at school. They will be asked to make a comment on the book each time they read some pages or a chapter. They will also be asking you to record your comments in their reading record each time you listen to them read. This will give me, and any teaching assistants, a bit more of an insight into how your child is getting on with their current book.

During school time I will listen to the children in guided 'group' reading and occasionally individually. I will be asking each child questions about the story they are reading, e.g. "what's going to happen next?", "describe the main character" and "how do you think he/she feels about this?" It would be beneficial for you to do this at home also. This will help to improve your child's comprehension skills.

Spellings will restart on Friday, with the first set of spellings being given out for the new year. The children will then be tested each **Friday**.

Maths and English homework

Children in year 4 will continue to be given maths homework on a **Friday** and will need to hand it in on the following **Tuesday**. For year 5s it will be given out on a **Tuesday** and handed in on a **Thursday**.

Grammar/Punctuation/Topic homework will be given out occasionally to extend or enhance the children's understanding of an area (this will always be accompanied by a note saying which day it is due in).

It is recommended by the government that children complete some homework on a daily basis. This may be reading, practising spellings or completing maths or topic homework. The guidelines are for:

Year 4 children - 20-30 mins each night.

Year 5 children - 30 mins each night.

If you have any questions or queries regarding homework, please do not hesitate to come in and speak to me.

PE kits

PE lessons will continue to be on a **Wednesday** (for years 4 and 5) and **Thursday** (for year 4s). The children have been told that they should have their indoor and outdoor PE kit school on these days. They have also been told it is their responsibility to remember it! Year 5s will need their swim suit and towel in school on Thursdays plus any goggles and ear plugs they wish to wear. The children will need their hair tied up or wear a swimming cap and any earrings taken out.

Please note, there will be no swimming for the first 2 Thursdays of this term.

Blog

Please check out the 5/4 Deer blog via the Roydon School website (**www.roydonprimary.co.uk**). It will be continually updated throughout the year with children's work and photos. Please comment on the blog, it would mean an awful lot to the children involved.

Last but not least

If there are any parents or carers who would volunteer their help any time during the school day then this would be superb. 10 minutes, 30 minutes, or an hour listening to readers or helping in class would all be greatly appreciated.

Finally, I want to say a huge thank you to those parents and carers that have helped in class over the winter term. Your support makes a huge difference.

Please look at the **attached sheet** to see the overview of what your child will be learning in 5/4 Deer this term.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come see me.

Kind Regards

Mr J. Santy

Geography – Improving the environment

We will use the immediate locality to investigate environmental issues and improvements. These issues will include recycling, pollution and global warming.

ICT – Programming and coding

This area looks at teaching children to program objects to produce an outcome.

RE – Journeys

What journey does the food we donate take?

Why is Easter time an important time for pilgrimages within the Christian faith?

Science – Materials and their properties

Grouping and classifying materials. Use of materials including those for warmth.

Solids, liquids and gases

5/4 Deer
Spring Term

Music - Composing music

Listening to and creating sounds linked to environmental issues.

(To be taught by Miss Phillips this term)

Maths

Time > Place value > Addition >
Subtraction > Measuring > Shape

Art – Making a moving image

Moving diorama art project linked to environmental issues.

(To be taught by Miss Phillips this term)

English –

Instruction texts > Explanation texts >
Persuasive writing > Adverts

PSHE - Good to be me

Explore feelings as an individual and realise that it really is 'Good to be me'.

PE –

Rugby

Netball

Gym