

# High Littleton C. of E. Primary School, High Littleton, Bristol BS39 6HF

Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

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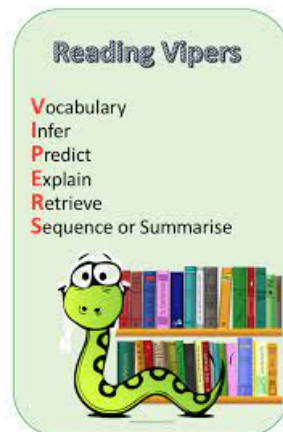
Monday 24th February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope that you had a great half term break and as always, we have a busy term ahead to lead us into Easter.

## Reading

The children are becoming increasingly confident to share and study a challenging book/text during our whole class reading and comprehension lessons. Last term, Fantastic Mr Fox inspired much discussion around the characters, plot and vocabulary choices of Roald Dahl. We will continue to develop critical reading skills in Fox Class this term: applying the 'VIPERS' approach to a range of genre through short texts and the chapter book: Ariki and The Island of Wonders.



Please note, the children will still have the opportunity to read regularly to adults on a 1:1 and small group basis, and should bring their book bags into school every day. Individual reading books will continue to be sent home and changed each week, where your comment confirms that books have been successfully completed. If your child reads their books quickly, then we encourage you to re-read; as well as supporting fluency, pace and prosody, re-reading allows your child to connect meaning to the words and illustrations - establishing a deeper understanding of characters, themes and story concepts.

***As part of our commitment to continually improve reading, we would like each reading book to be read X3 at home. This is to develop natural rhythm and fluency in reading - an area we have identified to improve further. There should be a marked improvement in pace from the first read***

***“Love each other as I have loved you” John 15:12***



**to final read. We may reduce the number of books sent home so this target can be met. Please comment or initial in the reading diary X3 so we know this has been achieved.**










**Obviously children who are on the Accelerated Reader Scheme (Year 2 and above) are reading longer texts and chapter books so these will only be read once. Phonics/Unlocking Letters and Sounds books need to be read three times.**

**Thank you so much for your continued support.**







## Writing

We will continue to use The Write Stuff's FANTASTICS, GRAMMERISTICS and BOOMTASTICS (see below) to help structure and develop our writing skills. The units we will be exploring focus on non-fiction skills this term: *Big Cats* (a non-chronological report).

The FANTASTICS:

F	A	N	T	A	S	T	I	C
								
Feelings	Asking (dialogue)	Noticing	Touching	Action	Smelling	Tasting	Imagining	Checking (hearing)

The GRAMMERISTICS:

								
Adverbials	Basics	Complex sentences	Dialogue/contracted forms	Purpose	Paragraphs	Passive/active voice	Tenses	Punctuation

The BOOMTASTICS:

								
Onomatopoeia	Alliteration	Rhyme	Repetition	Similes	Metaphor	Pathetic fallacy	Pun	Personification

Further Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG) skills are taught in addition to the Write Stuff. As you are aware, weekly spelling lists are sent home on a Friday, for the children to practise and return their homework book the following Thursday. From past experience, the children love to share their successes. May we please ask that you continue to support your child in practising their spellings through a 'little and often' approach (rather than once weekly) - it's never too early to introduce effective study techniques.

## Maths

We have a busy term ahead in maths, focussing on Measurement and Fractions. One key to understanding and developing maths skills is for the children to recognise its application to the 'real world'. To support this, please take the opportunity to ask your child questions and make links throughout their daily life and routines. Simple yet effective questioning such as: *What is the time? How long until....? Have you cleaned your teeth for 2 minutes? How much flour do I need for baking the cake? etc.*

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A big thank you for encouraging your child to access DoodleMaths and DoodleTables - we have seen an increase in many children's use of this and it really does help their confidence as mathematicians. Please continue to encourage your child to access this programme at home, when on their electronic devices. These are fun games that don't take too much time to complete. To be a confident mathematician, children should have a quick recall of their known facts such as number bonds to 10, 20 and 100. The children have also learned lots of fun ways to draw mathematical pictures to support their understanding and problem solving skills.

### Wider Curriculum

- As Geographers this term, the children will be learning all about Australia. We will be expanding their locational knowledge of the world, using vocabulary such as: hemisphere, county, country, continent, as well as identifying key features of hot and cold places.
- As Scientists, the children will be developing their understanding of Animals, Including Humans. Through this unit, we will explore life cycles and growth: building on our previous Habitats topic and linking directly to this term's Write Stuff topic of Big Cats.
- In DT, we will be focusing our learning on mechanisms: wheels and axles. The children will apply their understanding to design and create their very own ferris wheel!
- In RE, we will be thinking about what Christians believe relating to Salvation, continuing our learning about the Holy Week.
- Computing will be looking at pictograms and as musicians, the children will be exploring a unit called Zootime.
- In PSHE we will be looking at 'Healthy Me', making direct links to our Science and PE topics.
- PE sessions this term will build upon the children's knowledge of Target Games and Ball Skills.

### Reminders

- Please remember to send your child with a named piece of **fruit** for their morning snack; we continue to have school provided fruit for KS1 children, in the afternoons.
- Please **do not** send in: pencil cases, stationery or big bags (other than book bags).
- All children need to wear their **PE kits** to school on the days they have PE.
- Please ensure that **all property** in school is labelled with your child's name, particularly: jumpers, PE kits, water bottles, wellies and fruit pots.
- Playtime snacks must be fresh, raw fruit or vegetables (not packaged snacks) and the children must have a **named water bottle** everyday.

Finally and possibly most importantly, please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about your child's progress or well-being.

Yours sincerely,

Alice Langley  
Fox Class Teacher

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