

6th January 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to the Spring Term! I hope you all had a restful Christmas break – I have enjoyed hearing all about the children's Christmas stories today! Whilst on the subject of Christmas, I wanted to take the time to say a huge thank you to you all for all the wonderful gifts and cards I received in the run up to Christmas. The kind words and thoughtful gifts made my Christmas particularly special.

As with every new half term, we start this half term with a new topic! Our topic title for this term is: 'Predators' which is a science based topic that will see children learn about predators and prey, food chains and plants. In Maths, we will start with multiplication before moving onto division. I have been so impressed with children's progress so far in Maths and am looking forward to tackling trickier topics such as money later in the term. In English we will be writing our own dilemma stories and will use our reading book: The Butterfly Lion to write our own persuasive letters.

Children will take part in their forest schools sessions every Tuesday afternoon of this first half term too. Please see my previous letter for more information about our forest schools excursions.

On Thursday afternoons, I have my Planning, Preparation and Assessment time out of class. During this time, Mrs S Gibbon will take the children for their weekly music lessons. For the second half of this afternoon, Miss L Barnes will spend time talking to children about friendships and bullying during this terms Physical, Social and Health Education (PSHE) lessons.

Reminders for the half term:

- **Homework** – Children will continue to complete homework as before – practicing spellings using provided worksheets and online TT Rockstar games. To clarify, children will take their homework folder home every Monday to be completed and returned by Friday of the same week.
- **Forest Schools** – Red Kites will be visiting local woodland on Tuesday afternoons. For more information, please find our Forest Schools Letter on our class page.
- **PE** - Children will take place on a Wednesday morning. Stacey and I will take children for this PE session, with their first PE slot being allocated to forest school activities.
- **Jumpers and Coats** – In addition to appropriate Forest Schools clothing, myself and the Year 3 staff noted that many children last term were arriving to school without jumpers and coats. As the temperature remains cold, please ensure that you are sending your child to school with appropriate outdoor clothing for playtimes, PE and Forest School lessons.



The children enjoy and greatly benefit from lovely parent volunteers who support our curriculum themes, reading and invaluable school trips. Please do get in touch if you think you can help in any way. Also, please don't hesitate to come and see me if you have any concerns or wish to discuss anything about your child. You can catch me at the door (in the morning or after school) or alternatively leave a message at the office and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank-you for your continued support - we have an exciting term ahead of us with lots of interesting themes and learning opportunities – I look forward to working with you.

Yours sincerely,

Miss A Stanley
Red Kites Class Teacher