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Learn, Achieve, Love, Believe

***Newsletter 15.09.2023***

**United Utilities Assembly**

This week the children took part in a fantastic assembly with United Utilities, who came in to talk about all things to do with water! They discussed the water cycle, looked at water in different forms including dry ice, and discussed how to be good global citizens by making sure they conserve water as much as possible. Our Eco Educators Team will be building on this assembly in their pupil Leadership this year and Y3 will be using lots of this knowledge in their geography topic on Rivers.

**House Captains**

This week was our House Captains first week in their new post, and they have done a fantastic job being role models to the rest of the school. As well as being responsible for tracking the team House points, they will be working alongside the other pupils in their teams this term and hosting a House team afternoon. Our Y6 House Captains will also be planning and delivering some whole school assemblies throughout the year, which we are very excited about.

**Homework**

We have had some queries about homework this week, so just a couple of reminders about what the expectations are.

**Weekly Homework:**

**Reading** – we ask that every child completes reading 5x a week and that this is *recorded in their reading diary*. Older children can record this themselves, as we know they often read independently. We do ask that with older children, adults still read with them a couple of times a week as this allows them to discuss the text, answer questions, talk about new vocabulary etc.

**Reading Eggs** – this is the online games program for children in **Rec to Y2**, which is aimed at developing phonics and early reading skills. The teacher will set assignments each week to be completed.

**Reading Plus** – This is the online reading programme for children in **Y3-Y6**. There are three types of task of Reading Plus and we ask that children complete one of each, every week.

**Spellings –**Children will learn a new spelling rule each week, and will be tested on words that use this rule. Spellings are set each Thursday and are tested on Tuesday or Wednesday (class timetable dependant).**Scores will be recorded in the back of homework books.**Children can practise their spelling in their homework books or using the games on Spelling Shed.

**Times Table Rock Starz –**By the end of Y4, children are expected to know all of their times tables and associated division facts up to 12x12. To help with this, children will have weekly x tables tests and are asked to do regular practise on TTRS. **Scores will be recorded in the back of homework books.***(This is for children Y3 – Y6. Y2 children may move on to TTRS later in the year, but this will be communicated by the class teacher).*

**Half Termly Homework:**

**Topic Challenge Mat –**Each half term, your child will have a new mat stuck into their homework books, which is based around a theme. This could be a topic they are studying eg in science or history, or could be linked to something like reading, or the environment. There are a number of tasks on the mat, all of which are different – some may be quick ones, some will take longer, some are written some are creative. The mat is designed this way to allow families to choose activities that suit their week and family timetables.

**We ask that children complete at least 2 activities per half term** (and of course you are free to do more if you want!)

**Head Teacher's Awards**

Headteachers award winners

Reception - Rocco for a great start to phonics

Year 1 - Skylar for excellent behaviour for learning

Year 2 - George always using fantastic manners

Year 3 - Willow for always using fantastic manners

Year 4 - Ivy-Rae for being a kind face in our class

Year 5 - Molly for being ready, respectful, and safe

Year 6 - Elissa for being an excellent role model and a wonderful helpful friend

**Lunchtime award winners**

Reception - Albie

Year 1 - Evie

Year 2 - Nevaeh

Year 3 - Spencer

Year 4 - Jessica

Year 5 - Sonny

Year 6 - Phoebie

**Looking Ahead**

*Here are some important dates for your diaries to help you plan for the next few weeks:*

* Thurs 28th Sept - Y4 trip to Clonter Opera; Photo Day - Individual; New Admissions Open Evening 3.30pm/5.30pm
* Mon 2nd Oct - Y6 Parent Insight session 2.15pm
* Tues 3rd Oct - Y1 Parent Insight session 2.15pm
* Thurs 5th Oct - Y5 Harvest Service @church 9.30am; Y2 Parent Insight session 2.15pm
* Mon 9th Oct - Y5 Parent Insight session 2.15pm
* Mon 16th Oct - Reception Parent Insight session 2.15pm
* Tues 17th Oct - Y3 Parent Insight session 2.15pm
* Thurs 19th Oct - Reception Welcome Worship 10am @school
* Weds 25th Oct - Autumn Disco
* Thurs 26th Oct - Break up for Half Term
* Mon 6th Nov - School reopens for Autumn 2

***Please note, these dates are subject to change - please ensure you check them each week for any amendments or additions.***