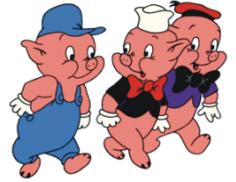




Term 3

The term has begun with our whole school project 'Roll with Dahl'. After a week immersing ourselves in *The BFG* and 'The Three Little Pigs' (taken from *Revolting Rhymes*), pupils arrived on Friday in a variety of amazing costumes, dressed as one of his many characters. We set our pupils some challenging writing tasks in Year 5, which we were really pleased to see them strive to achieve.



The term continues with a new topic 'Out of this World' which we plan to continue into Term 4. It will begin with a geography focus, as we look at the environments here on planet Earth, before taking a science based edge, as we study the Earth, Sun and Moon, as well as our Solar System. The children will be learning about the shape and relative size of the Earth, Sun and Moon. We'll also discuss the movement of the Earth and moon in relation to each other as well as how the Earth spins and moves around the sun. We'll investigate why the moon appears to change shape. Having gained a greater understanding of our own planet, we shall then begin to find out more about space travel, in preparation for the second part of our topic next term. This is when pupils will be able to develop their imaginations and enhance their literacy skills, as we journey beyond the Milky Way, as we focus on Science Fiction.

Homework Club

Each week the majority of our pupils' hand in their homework every Wednesday, having completed it since the previous Friday. However, there are a number of pupils who are finding it difficult to complete their homework at home, or who are struggling to complete it as they do not fully understand the task. Therefore, the Year 5 team have started running a homework club every Monday lunchtime between 1:00 and 1:30 (30 minutes), when Year 5 pupils can go to the teacher on duty and complete their homework then. A few pupils have already taken to opportunity to use the club, if they know they will not be able to complete their homework on time. It may be that, some pupils will be invited to attend, to ensure their homework is completed.

This will also be an opportunity for pupils who have not been able to read 5 times in the previous week, to come to homework club for 20 minutes to complete their reading homework.

PE Kits: Tuesday and Thursday

PE lessons will continue throughout Year 5, but with one lesson being taught outside (Tuesday afternoon) and the other in the school hall (Thursday) each week, all year. Therefore, it is essential that your child has their **named PE kit**, consisting of black shorts, a house colour t-shirt, as well as trainers, tracksuit bottoms and sweatshirt for outdoor PE. They must also ensure that they can remove any jewellery they are wearing (earrings, watches). Hair, shoulder length or longer, should also be tied back.



Project and Numeracy Homework Set Weekly

Weekly homework will continue to be issued on a **Friday** for it to be completed and returned by the following **Wednesday**. Your child is required to spend a **minimum** of **30 minutes** completing their homework using a handwriting pen for Topic homework and a HB pencil for numeracy homework and any drawings.



Should your child not complete the task in the time allotted, please jot a quick note in their book to say they have spent 30 minutes fully concentrated on the task. This will allow us to adjust the quantity of homework accordingly.

Reminder: Reading Expectations

The ability to read well is crucial – a life skill required by all. As a result, we require **each child to**:



- read on **five separate occasions every week** (three times to an adult at least where possible);
- **note their reading in their contact book** (date, pages, brief comment)
- **have a parent/guardian sign their book** to confirm the reading has taken place.

Pupils should be encouraged to read a book each week (fiction/non-fiction), with additional reading including reading from the internet if researching or looking a hobby or from other sources. However, reading to complete research as part of their topic homework, unfortunately does not form part of their reading homework.

Additional comments from parents are welcome. We appreciate that it is not always possible to read with your child although it would be beneficial to them for this to happen as much as possible. Contact books will be checked and signed on a Monday, but should be brought into school each day.

Next term:

As we continue the topic next term, we shall be visiting the Royal Greenwich Observatory on Wednesday 8th March 2017, so that for the children to consolidate and further extend their learning of such an abstract concept as they will have the chance to interact with large scale models and visit the solar system during a fascinating planetarium show. Letters regarding this trip will be sent out separately.

Diary Dates

Friday 10th February: Last day of Term 3

Monday 20th February: First day of Term 4

Friday 24th February: History Day – details to follow

Wednesday 8th March: Royal Observatory, Greenwich trip