

Dear Parents

Welcome back to everyone after the Christmas break, we hope you had a peaceful, restful time. Many thanks for all of the kind gifts and words Mrs Rayner and myself received, they were very much appreciated.

Our theme this term revolves around our class novel, a book of adventure and historical fact, "Streetchild". This will be explored through our Literacy and Topic work, where the children will focus particularly on the life of children their own age in Victorian England and the change, innovation and exploration of the Victorian Era.

A wonderful trip is planned for the second half of the Spring Term to the open air museum of Beamish, and details will follow shortly.

In Geography children will be investigating the breadth and diversity of the British Empire, with a more detailed exploration of biomes and climate. Also understanding geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography.

In science the children will explore, how scientific ideas about nutrition are tested and how does this contribute to our understanding of a balanced diet? How are nutrients and water transported in the human body? What happens to our hearts when we exercise and why? How do muscles move the skeleton? How is our food digested?

Children in class 4 are given spellings which they will practise and define each morning in class in preparation for a weekly spelling test, which takes place on Friday mornings. Children will bring their spellings home to practice for 5 or 10 minutes daily.

Growing Learners for Life

Maths and Literacy homework is given out on Friday and is due in on the following Thursday. We should be grateful if you would support your child by setting good homework routines. If homework is causing stress please don't worry, send it back in to class, with a quick note to say what is causing the problem and we will sort it out in school. However, we do expect all children to at least attempt their homework as it is purely a consolidation of what has been focused upon in the classroom.

Guided Reading takes place every day and children are expected to have their guided reading book and reading response book available in school for use in these sessions, they may have reading homework set or wish to complete a piece of work at home. If you wish to read part of your child's book with them this is fine as long as they are following with you. Only read to the page that has been set by the teacher with the Guided Reading book. We have an excellent selection of other reading material in the class library and your child is free to borrow as many texts as they wish.

PE will normally take place on Wednesday and Friday each week, if your child is not taking part please send a note, or email to explain why. PE kit should be trainers, dark shorts (blue/black) or jogging trousers and a white T-shirt.

We are looking forward to hard work and learning through lots of fun and enjoyment. If you have any questions regarding your child's learning, please feel free to contact me through the school admin (<u>admin@northduffield.n-</u> <u>yorks.sch.uk</u>) or catch me at 8:50am in the mornings for quick queries.

Kind Regards

Michaela A. Mounfield