

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

Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

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Thursday 27th February 2020

Dear Parents,

We are now further than half way through this academic year and really cannot believe how quickly the time has gone! As always, we have a busy term ahead and for the first three weeks only of Term 4, Miss Ellery will continue to work alongside us in Otter Class; she will then return to complete her training at Clutton Primary School and we wish her all the best in her future teaching career.

This term in **Maths** we will focus on multiplication and division, including mental and formal written methods, prime, square and cube numbers and scaling; and fractions, including identifying equivalent fractions, converting mixed numbers and improper fractions, add and subtract fractions with the same denominator and multiply proper fractions. The emphasis is on improving children's reasoning and problem solving skills. Times tables tests will continue on a weekly basis. All children in year 4 and 5 are expected to know their times tables facts up to 12 x 12. During Friday maths lessons, Y4 children will be securing their knowledge of 'Length and Perimeter' while the Y5 children will focus on 'Converting Units' of measure (km to m, cm to mm, litres to millilitres etc).

Our **Geography Topic** continues to be 'Global Trade'. We will study a few countries' largest export, investigate how climate zones affect the growth of crops, explore what Fairtrade is and locate countries and regions on a map. Later on in term 4 we will be moving onto our **History Topic**, Mayan Civilisation, which will continue in term 5. In the History unit we will learn about the remarkable achievements of the ancient Maya, and about the Maya perspective of time, the calendar system, writing, maths and the environment. This unit will also encourage pupils to move away from the tendency in applying one's own cultural values in judging the behaviour and beliefs of people raised in other cultures.

In **Science** this term we will be **Investigating Materials**, their properties and uses. The children are particularly enjoying working scientifically this year, in small groups to answer a question; you may have seen clear evidence of this, in our Instagram posts?

French will continue every other Monday with Madame Collier. We have started preparing for our annual **Spelling Bee** competition, which will take place later on this year on the 1st of July. Please support your child in learning the French alphabet.

As you are aware, this term Otter Class children are very lucky to have the opportunity to perform at the **Dance Umbrella** in Bath, with the dance they are working extremely hard on with Michelle Rochester to perfect their routine to 'Hide you' by Kosheen.

Reminder of weekly Routines:

PE (dance with Michelle Rochester) will be on a Wednesday this term. However, please make sure that a named PE kit is in school every day; 'Fit Friday' sessions will also continue this term.

Maths homework will continue to be Doodle Maths; within each week children are expected to get 50 stars. Scores will be checked on **Mondays**. **Year 4** children will continue to do their additional **times tables homework** weekly, being ready to mark it on **Wednesdays**.

English homework (Spellings) will be given out on **Fridays** to be handed in the following **Thursday**. Every fortnight, a **grammar test** will be allocated on spag.com on Wednesday to be completed by the following **Wednesday**.

Reading Books: we are still aiming for children to read regularly at home (hopefully they are choosing to read for pleasure on a daily basis) so please do continue to listen/read to them regularly. Any 'book discussion' will also help to deepen their comprehension skills and if you can challenge your child further by reading 'tricky' books to them, that would be fantastic - not only in terms of comprehension but to effectively develop and extend their own vocabulary.

Please remind your child to bring a named and fresh filled **water bottle** to school every day and a fruit snack for morning break – the tuck shop will still be available if you prefer.

Wet weather gear. Please ensure your child has wellies and waterproofs for those wet, rainy days.

Kind regards,

Ania Woods and Claire Richardson