



Radley CE Primary School & Foundation Stage Unit

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Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and very best wishes for 2023. We hope that you enjoyed the Christmas break and quality time with family and friends. Mr Pearman, Mrs Holt, Mrs Goddard and I all send our thanks for the kind and thoughtful gifts we received.

It is lovely that Team Thames have settled back quickly and are ready to take on the challenges of the new term. As ever, we are delighted with their enthusiasm, resilience and positive attitude to learning.

This term, our whole-school value is Resilience. We will be exploring this value and thinking about how we can apply it in our lives.

Our learning during the spring term will include the following curriculum topics:

English	Zones of Regulation Focus book – What should Danny do? Under the Lights – modern fiction (resilience) Soar – developing character and creating atmosphere Spelling, punctuation and grammar Comprehension
Maths	Fractions, decimals and percentages Converting units Perimeter, area and volume
Science	Light Famous Scientists Evolution and Inheritance
Computing	Programming A – Selection in physical computing Data and information – flat-file databases
History/ Geography	Investigating our world Maps/atlasses/countries/climates
D.T/ Art	Light, line and shadow Easter Art
P.E.	Net games / multi-sports
R.E.	How can Brahman be everywhere and in everything? Easter story – God’s plan
Music	Instruments of the Orchestra (Grazyna Bacewicz Overture Oxford Youth Orchestra concert - Sheldonian
MFL	Spanish – Unit 2
P.S.H.E.	Zones of Regulation Jigsaw scheme: Dreams and Goals

Homework will follow the same pattern as last term and children should continue to return completed homework on Wednesdays and their spelling books on Thursdays.

Reading	Daily reading 15 – 20 minutes. Children should record the pages they have read in their diary and have an adult initial this.
Spellings	Spellings will be tested on a Thursday morning and new spellings will be given out each Thursday.
Maths CGP book	Weekly pages to complete, self-mark and return on Wednesday.
Comprehension CGP book	Weekly pages to complete, self-mark and return on Wednesday.

PE lessons will continue to be on Wednesday afternoons delivered by our new PE teacher Ollie Kearny. Could we ask that children come to school in appropriate PE kit (including jumpers and jog bottoms on colder days). At present, PE lessons take place outside unless the weather is really wet.

Year 6 children will sit the national SATs this year in May, and we are therefore working to prepare them appropriately. As part of this preparation, we will have a Mock SATs week later this term and one at the start of the summer term. This is simply to provide the children with the experience of what they can expect in May and to help us to plan and prepare for the logistics needed.

We will also be starting an early morning SATs club beginning the week of 16th January – please see separate letter.

Our partnership and support from Radley College will be further developed this term across several curriculum areas. We will have weekly Reading Mentors visit us on Monday afternoons, and on Wednesday afternoons we will be visiting the Radley College Maths Department for reasoning and problem solving challenges. On Monday 30th January we will visit the Physics Department to enhance our unit on Light.

At the end of January, we will be saying farewell and good luck to Mr Pearman as he moves on to his next placement school. We have been incredibly fortunate to benefit from his enthusiastic and professional approach, and know that he will go on to great success in the future. We will welcome a new Associate Teacher at the start of February, who will remain with us until the end of their training in June.

We always welcome your help and support with your children's learning, and if you feel that there are any areas of this term's curriculum that you may be able to contribute to, please let us know.

As always, we welcome your questions or feedback, so please do not hesitate to contact me through the school office. It is always best to communicate early and openly should there be any concerns, to ensure a positive, productive and supportive environment for your children.

Best wishes,

Heather Sparks
Thames Class Teacher