

West Pennard Church of England Primary School



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Headteacher: Mr Wheat



14th January 2022

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had an enjoyable and restful break over the Christmas and New Year period. The children have returned with smiles on their faces and have settled back into school life seamlessly. There are some changes afoot for the spring term as well as some important dates; please read on for more information.

PE

This term our PE lesson will be led by the PE coach and will be 11 – 12 on Thursday morning. Additionally, you may have heard about the Golden Mile, which we have started in class 4 this week. It involves running around a designated circuit on the playground for 10 minutes and keeping an accumulative total of the distances they have run. There is no set day or time for Golden Mile, instead it will be done whenever time allows. For that reason, please ensure your child has their PE kit in school throughout the week. This first half term is also our turn to visit Strode pool for our swimming lessons, therefore please ensure your child brings in their swimming kit with them every Friday.

Homework

Homework will remain the same this term as it was in the autumn term with most of the work being set online through Google Classroom. It will usually consist of TT Rockstars, Doodle Maths, Doodle English and Spell and reading. The idea behind this is that by setting homework on programmes that the children are very familiar with (due to the time we allocate for them during the school day) it should mean that the children can complete them independently. That is, however, not to say that you cannot assist your child's learning if you wish – especially with the reading. I would note that in general last term the homework completion rate for Squirrel Class was very low, so please give your child the odd reminder throughout the week to make sure it doesn't slip their mind.

Topic

Our topic this term is geography based as we will be learning about the 'The Americas.' English lessons will be based around the book – 'The Boy Who Biked the World Part 2: Riding The Americas.' A true story based on the experiences of Tom Morgan-Jones, it details his travels from the tip of South America right up through to Alaska. Passing through the Amazon rainforest will link in nicely to our science topic of Living things and Their Habitats. As part of their DT topic the children will be using their printing skills to replicate the Nazca lines as well as looking at the history of the United States of America.

Class trip

We are currently in the process of trying to organise a class trip (during the second half of this term) based on our topic. As soon as it is confirmed you will get more information.



Year 3 / 4 production

Teamed with year 3 we will also be performing 'Hoodwinked' towards the end of this half term. We have already started rehearsals and the children are excited by the opportunity to sing, dance and act on stage. We are finalising the dates for the performances this week and as soon as we can we will give you more details.

As you can see we have an extremely busy term ahead of us and the children are very excited about all of the events that lay ahead. We are looking forward to another positive term and appreciate your continued support.

If you have any queries about the information in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

My kindest regards

Mr James Bisgrove