



STRIVE TO THE UTTERMOST

Year 5 Sparrowhawks' News

Autumn Term 1 2017

Etwell Primary School

Welcome back! We hope you have had a lovely summer break and are rested and ready for the new year in school.

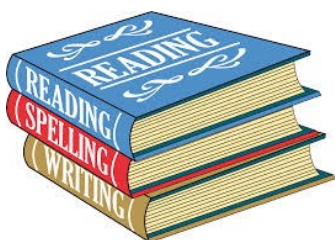
Maths and English

Remember:

- * PE kits need to be in school every day.
- * Reading journals will be checked every Monday.
- * Spelling test is every Tuesday. Please support your child in learning their spellings.
- * Children will have mental maths and writing targets glued into their homework books. Times tables are also expected to be practised every week. Please support

English

In English this term we will be exploring classic fiction (Tom's Midnight Garden) and instructions. In our guided reading lessons, we will be working on our inference and deduction skills. Through our English work we will develop our knowledge of spellings,



punctuation and grammar (spag), and we will work on our use of a cursive script in hand-writing practice.

Maths

In maths this term we will be solving a range of number and practical problems involving numbers up to ten million, using formal calculation methods for the four operations. Although we will be practising our multiplication

facts in school, the quicker the children can recall these facts, the easier they will find the whole maths curriculum. Please encourage your child to practise these at home. Thank you.



Other subjects

Our topic work this term is 'Were the Vikings always victorious and vicious?' We will be learning about the achievements of the Vikings and the impact the Vikings had on our society. Our science topic is 'How can you light up your life?' (Light). For this topic we will be finding out about how light travels, how shadows are formed and how eyes work. In RE our topic is 'What can we learn from reli-

gions about deciding what is right and wrong?' In Citizenship our theme is 'Changes' and 'Getting on and falling out.'

In PE we will be completing orienteering activities and competitive sports. In German we

will learn greetings, classroom commands and numbers. Our computing topic will be basic skills and art will be structures. In music we will be reading music and playing the glockenspiel.



Rapid Number Recall

Rapid number recall is based on the belief that if children have rapid recall of key facts in maths, they will find all other areas of the maths curriculum much easier. For example, when being asked to find out the fraction of an amount, if they have good understanding of their multiplication facts, they will find this much easier.

There are 8 steps in the programme, and within each step there are several objectives. Your child's teacher will initially tell your child where they will start and then they will work through the steps in order.

You will find the step that your child is working on, and the target within that step, in their homework book, along with ideas about how you can help them to achieve this target. Children will also have time to practice these in school, but obviously the more help they get the quicker they will achieve!

Each target has a 24 question quiz that children will be asked to complete at least once a week. When they can get 100% three times, children will move on to the next target. The progress your child is making will be recorded in their homework books so that you can share their successes with them.

Thank you for your continued support.

Pencil Cases

Class teachers have had a few unnecessary issues with children's pencil cases this year. Some children are bringing in many of the items provided by school eg pencils, rulers, protractors, pencil crayons, erasers etc. All these items are not needed in school as *all stationery that children need for school is provided for them in the classroom*. The size of pencil cases have also been a big issue as they do not fit in your child's tray and so are left on tables where they can be very distracting for the children when they are learning, and when things get lost, it creates a lot of upset.

We are therefore going to start the new school year with clear guidelines as to what the children are allowed to bring in school. KS1 children are not allowed to bring pencil cases into school – this will remain unchanged. KS2 will only be allowed to bring in small pencil cases that have to be able to fit into their tray. They will not be allowed to have them out on their desks and any pencil cases that are too big will be sent home. KS2 chn are only allowed to bring in felt tips and/or pencil crayons for their personal use – ***nothing else will be allowed.*** ***Thank you for your support in this matter.***

Online Safety—Games

Are you aware of the games your children are playing? Are they age appropriate? If they're playing online, is there a chat/private chat function? Are you happy with this? Go through their devices with them and check those games on the Common Sense Media website (<https://www.commonsensemedia.org>) to satisfy yourself that you are happy with them (<http://www.esafety-adviser.com>).

Year 5/6 staff

The teachers in Years 5/6 this year are Mrs Dhillon (Ospreys), Miss Warburton (Eagles) and Miss Marriott (Sparrowhawks). Our teaching assistants are Mrs Hall, who has worked in Year 5/6 for two years and has worked as a TA for many years, Mrs Cheetham, who is a HLTA (higher level



teaching assistant), and has worked in Y5/6 for many years and Miss Jacobs, who has also worked as a TA for many years. Again this year, starting later in the term, Mrs Cheetham will be taking out groups of Year 5/6 children to teach maths and English lessons in the library. These lessons will be planned by the class teachers. She will be working with children of a range of abilities throughout the year. Children will be taught by her for a week at a time, to maximize the impact on their learning. We are very lucky to be supported by such excellent and dedicated TAs in Year 5/6!

Useful Websites

We often get asked if we can recommend any websites that your child could go on to help them with their school work. Here are a couple that you might find useful:

www.interactive-resources.co.uk

The pupil log in and password are the same and are 'epsupil'. There is a folder for each class and the games are regularly updated, by teachers, according to what we are learning.

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/spelling_grammar

This website has on it some spelling and grammar games to help your child with the grammar and spelling objectives that we will be covering in class. There are notes to read, games to play and quizzes to do.



PG films

Throughout the year the children may be watching clips from PG films to support their learning. If you have any questions about this, please come and see your child's class teacher.



Grammar

Some of the areas we will be looking at this year are:

Relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that, or an omitted relative pronoun (for example: The teacher, who has been teaching for a long time, is looking forward to the new school year).

Indicating degrees of possibility using **adverbs** [for example, perhaps, surely] or **modal verbs** [for example, might, should, will, must] **adverbials of time** [for example, later], **place** [for example, nearby] **and number** [for example, secondly].

Use of the **semi-colon, colon**

and **dash** to mark the boundary between sentences [for example, It's raining; I'm fed up].

The difference between vocabulary typical of **informal speech** and vocabulary appropriate for **formal speech** and writing [for example, find out – discover; ask for – request; go in – enter]. How words are related by meaning as **synonyms** and **antonyms** [for example, big, large, little]. **Brackets, dashes** or **commas** to indicate parenthesis (extra information).

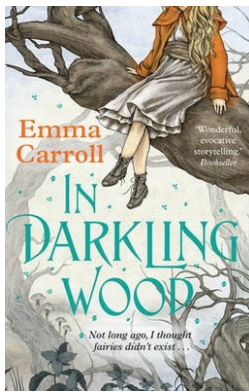


Homework Club

Every Monday lunchtime, children will have the opportunity to attend, if they wish, the Homework Club run by Mrs Hall. They will have access to adult support, books, iPads and computers to help them with their chosen homework activities. If your child is interested, please ask them to speak to their class teacher. Children can attend as often or as little as they feel they need to.



Recommended Reads



In Darkling Wood

By: Emma Carroll

With her little brother Theo seriously ill in hospital, her Mum stressed out and her Dad seemingly too wrapped up in his new family to care, the last thing Alice needs is to be shipped off to stay in the middle of nowhere with a grandmother she has never met.

Although desperately worried about Theo, Alice finds herself distracted by the fate of an ancient woodland that seems to be inexplicably linked to long-buried family secrets. And also by a strange girl determined to convince her that fairies not only live in the wood but could exact a terrible revenge if their habitat is destroyed.

Stormbreaker

By: Anthony Horowitz

Anthony Horowitz, creator of star teenage spy Alex Rider, launches a phenomenal, action-packed adventure series with Stormbreaker. His teenage hero is cool, contemporary and brave - just the right sort of hero to entice reluctant boy readers, aged 9+, to get reading. As the book opens, Alex discovers that his uncle, who has looked after him since he was a baby, has been killed in a car crash. What's more, he was a spy not a banker, and now Alex is being recruited to help on a MI6 mission. Cracking pace and tons of suspense make this an irresistible read.



Key dates for your diary

4th September—INSET day

5th September—Children start back

20th September—PTFA Meeting

12th October—Individual photographs

16th and 19th October—3.45—6.30pm—Parent Consultations

20th October—Last day of term.

