

# Year 4 Sparrowhawk's Newsletter

Spring Term 3 2019

**Etwall Primary School**

Happy New Year and welcome back! We hope that you had a lovely break and are rested and ready for the busy term ahead.

## Remember:

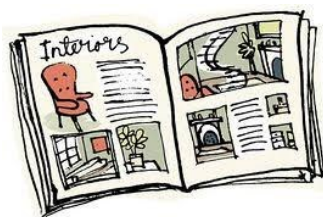
- \* PE kits need to be in school every day.
- \* Swimming kits need to be in every Tuesday.
- \* Reading journals will be checked every Tuesday.
- \* Spelling test is every Tuesday. Please support your child in learning their spellings.
- \* Children will have writing targets glued into their reading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

## Maths and English

### English

In English this term through our Talk for Writing work we will be exploring science fiction and persuasive writing.

In our guided reading lessons, we will be working on our inference and deduction skills. Through our Eng-



lish work we will develop our knowledge of spellings, punctuation and grammar (SPAG), and we will work on our use of a cursive script in handwriting practice.

### Maths

In maths we will work on a range of number and practical problems involving statistics, measure and percentages.

Although we will be practising our multipli-

cation 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 'What would you have done after school 100 years ago?' We will be learning about leisure and entertainment in the 20th Century. Our science topic is 'What is above us in the sky?' and we will be learning about Earth and space. In RE, our topic is 'What can be learned from a Buddhist way of life?' In Citizenship, our theme is exploring emotions.

In PE, our theme is dynamic balance. In German, we will be learning to talk about our families and pets.

Our computing topic will be online safety and collaborating and communicating. Our DT topic will be textiles and

we will be making Victorian toys. In music, we will be learning about jazz.



## Parent workshops and showcases

Over the next few terms, we will continue to hold parent workshops and showcases as follows, and we would like to warmly invite you to join us for them, so that you can find our ways of supporting your child's learning at home.

Workshops are held in classrooms and showcases may be in classrooms or in the hall/outside, depending on the theme of the showcase. Times will be confirmed nearer the time.

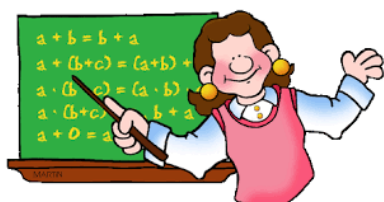
Thank you for your continued support.

Wednesday 16th January 9:00-9:30 —KS2 reading workshop

Thursday 4th April pm—KS2 D&T showcase

Tuesday 30th April 9:00-9:30—KS2 spelling/handwriting workshop

Tuesday 25th June —KS2 outdoor learning showcase



## Trip to Think Tank

On Tuesday 12th February Sparrowhawk's Y4 children will be visiting the Think Tank science museum in Birmingham, as part of our enrichment work on our science topics.

We will be visiting the galleries as well as doing workshops about habitats and Earth and Space (our spring term science topics).

The 4/Y5/6 team have visited Think Tank in previous years and it is a fabulous trip which deepens the children's science knowledge and skills greatly.

A letter will be sent out straight after Christmas with further details of the trip.

Thank you for your support.



## Online Safety

As it is January, why not make a digital resolution! Create a family agreement to ensure positive behaviour and boundaries online.

Safer Internet Day 2019 will be celebrated globally on Tuesday 5th February 2019 with the slogan "Together for a Better Internet". At Etwall Primary School, we will be holding our annual Online Safety week during this week. The children will be participating in various Online Safety activities. For advice on keeping your children safe online, please remember to read our termly Online Safety Newsletter, visit the Online Safety section on the school website or 'A Parent's Guide to being Share Aware' (<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/share-aware.pdf>).



## Mountain Warehouse

Mountain Warehouse The Year 3/4 residential is on the horizon, and the kit list will be coming your way in the near future. Although we recommend that you send your child with old clothes which can get dirty, if you do need to buy them anything, Mountain Warehouse in the Intu Centre have kindly agreed to give a 10% discount to Etwall Primary School families whose children are attending the residential. All you need to do is mention the school.



## Date for your diary: Sparrowhawk's Class Assembly

Sparrowhawk's class assembly will be on Wednesday 20th March at 9:05.

We look forward to seeing you there!



## 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**

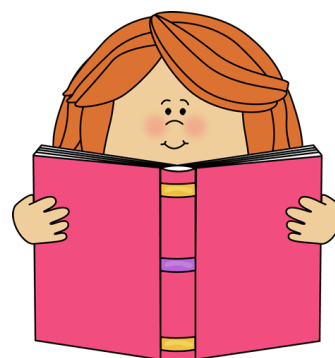
and **dash** to mark the boundary between sentences [for example, *It's raining; I'm fed up*].

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).



## Book Swap Friday

Please remember that the first Friday of every month is Book Swap Friday. The next Book Swap Friday is Friday 11th January and then again on 1st February. Please encourage your child to bring a finished book into school so that they can swap it for a book they have not yet read. Many thanks.

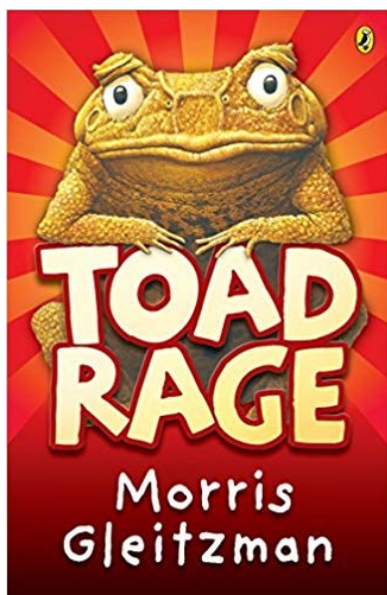


## Recommended Reads

### Toad Rage

By Morris Gleitzman

Limpy can't understand why humans hate all cane toads so much - they even squash them with their cars. He is determined to save his own family from ending up as flat as place mats. He sets off on a 'mucas-chillingly dangerous and wart-tinglingly daring journey' and risks everything to make humans see that cane toads are really very nice.

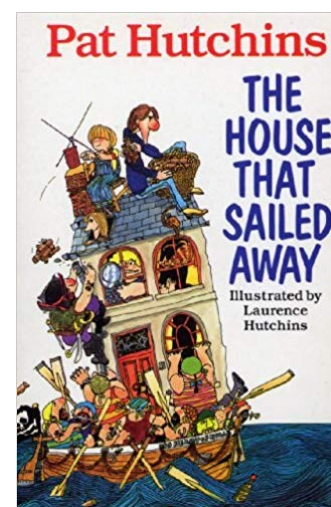


### The House That Sailed Away

By Pat Hutchins

Poor old Grandma!

It had rained every day since she came to stay with Mother, Father, Morgan, the baby and Tail-cat. But just as everyone was getting really fed up of being stuck indoors, the most amazing thing happened!



## Key dates for your diary

Monday 7th January—Back to school!

Friday 11th January—Book Swap Friday

Wednesday 16th January—KS2 reading workshop in classrooms, 9:00-9:30

Friday 1st February—Book Swap Friday

W.B. 4th February—Safer Internet Week

Monday 4th February—PTFA film night

Tuesday 5th February—Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 12th February—Year 5/6 trip to Think Tank, Birmingham

Friday 15th February—PTFA recycling dress down day and End of term

