

# Year 4 Sparrowhawks News

Autumn Term 1 2018

**Etwall Primary School**

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

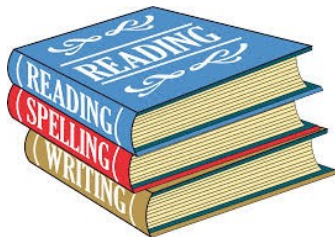
## Maths and English

### Remember:

- \* PE kits need to be in school every day.
- \* Reading diaries will be checked every Tuesday.
- \* Swimming is on Tuesday.
- \* Spelling test is every Tuesday. Please support your child in learning their spellings. Children will often be asked to learn a rule to apply to their spellings.
- \* Children will have mental maths and writing targets glued into their reading diaries. Times table are also expected to be practiced every week.
- \* Please can you ensure that your child always has an old shirt/apron in their PE bag for art and design lessons, as they can get quite messy!

### English

In English this term we will be exploring historical narrative (War Horse) and explanations. 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 handwriting practice.

### Maths

In maths this term we will be solving a range of number and practical problems involving numbers beyond 1000, using formal calculation methods for the four operations. 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 about WW1: The Great War. As it is 100 years since the end of WW1, the children will be finding out about the roles and responsibilities of the people involved and how it has impacted on the society

we live in today. Our science topic is 'How can Jessica Ennis-Hill move so quickly?'. This involves looking at the skeleton and how muscles are used. In RE, our topic is 'Can religions build a fair world?'. In citizenship, our theme is 'Being Healthy'. In PE,

we will be developing our coordination and agility and begin swimming lessons with Mrs Goodchild (hopefully). In German, we will learn greetings, classroom commands and numbers. Computing will be developing our basic skills and in art we will be creating pictures using natural materials. In music, we will continue to develop our rhythm and musical notations.

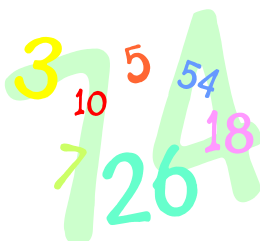
## Fluency and Reasoning

Fluency and Reasoning is based on the belief that if children are proficient in their fluency and reasoning skills, 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 a good understanding of their multiplication facts, they will find this much easier.

The programme is based on a series of steps, 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 reading journal, 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 reading diaries so that you can share their successes with them.



## Year 3/4 Staff

The teachers in Kestrels, Falcons and Sparrowhawks this year are Mrs Blake and Mrs Dawson (Kestrels), Mr Jowett (Falcons) and Miss Marriott (Sparrowhawks). The teaching assistants are Mrs Dorrington (Falcons), Mrs Dickinson (Kestrels) and Mrs Appleton (Sparrowhawks), who are all experienced Teaching Assistants and are a great help and support to the children, (and teachers!)



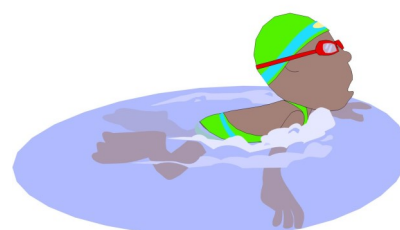
## Book Swap Friday

Book Swap Friday is to continue this year, and will be run by the newly appointed Literacy Committee. This will happen on the first Friday of every month, beginning in October. On Book Swap Friday, children are welcome to bring into school a book/books (NOT school library books) that they have finished reading and swap it/them for a new book that another child has brought in. Please make sure that books that your children bring to Book Swap Friday are in a reasonable condition so that another child can enjoy reading them!

Thank you for your support.

## Mount Cook Adventure Centre

As you are aware, our residential trip is only a few months away. Mr Jowett will be sending out more information regarding this trip shortly, including kit lists and other important information. If you would like to find out more information about the centre, please visit <http://www.mountcook.org/>



## Swimming

This year Kestrels, Falcons and Sparrowhawks will be swimming on a Tuesday. Please ensure kits are in school every week at the

## Useful Websites

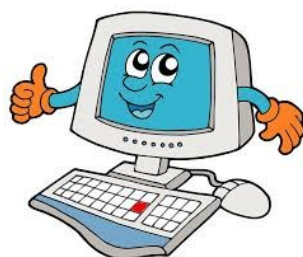
We often get asked if we can recommend any websites that your child could go on to help them with their school work. Here are a couple that you might find useful:

[www.interactive-resources.co.uk](http://www.interactive-resources.co.uk)

The pupil log in and password are the same and are 'epspupil'. There is a folder for each class and when this is clicked on the games are regularly updated.

[www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/spelling\\_grammar](http://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].

Use of commas to clarify meaning. The difference between vocabulary typical of informal speech and vocabulary appropriate for formal speech and writing [for example, find out -

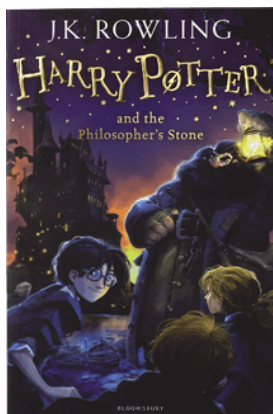
discover; ask for – request; go in – enter] How words are related by meaning as **synonyms** and **antonyms** [for example, big, large, little]. **Brackets, dashes or commas** to show part of a sentence.



## World War 1 Commemoration

This year, marks the centenary since the end of World War 1. We will be working very closely with St. Helen's Church and the Parish Council to mark this very important occasion. As part of our work, all children will be contributing to an exhibition at the church. All children and parents will be invited to view the exhibition (dates to follow). We look forward to being apart of this historic anniversary, which continues to play an important part in how our world is shaped today.

## Recommended Reads



### **Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone by JK Rowling.**

When mysterious letters start arriving on his doorstep, Harry Potter has never heard of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. They are swiftly confiscated by his aunt and uncle.

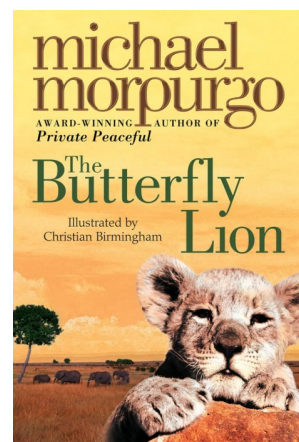
Then, on Harry's eleventh birthday, a strange man bursts in with some important news: Harry Potter is a wizard and has been awarded a place to study at Hogwarts.

**And so the first of the *Harry Potter* adventures is set to begin.**

## Recommended Reads

### **The Butterfly Lion by Michael Morpurgo**

Bertie rescues an orphaned white lion cub from the African veld. They are inseparable until Bertie is sent to boarding school far away in England and the lion is sold to a circus. Bertie swears that one day they will see one another again, but it is the butterfly lion which ensures that their friendship will never be forgotten.



## Key dates for your diary

Monday 3rd & Tuesday 4th September - INSET DAY.

Wednesday 5th September—Back to school.

Monday 10th September — Second instalment of residential payment due (year 3/4 children).

Thursday 27th September—Macmillan Coffee Morning.

Friday 28th September—Stand Up Day.

Tuesday 2nd October—Harvest Festival at St. Helen's Church (children only).

Thursday 4th October—Individual photographs.

Monday 8th October—PTFA film night.

Tuesday 16th & Thursday 18th October—Consultation evenings.

Friday 26th October PTFA Recycle day.

Friday 26th October—End of Term.

