

# Kestrel and Falcon Class News

Autumn Term 2 2018

**Etwall Primary  
School**

Well done on a fantastic first term of settling into Juniors and Year 4! Let's see what else we can explore this term...

## Maths and English

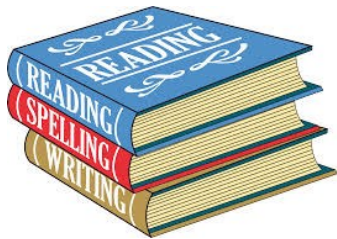
### Remember:

- \* PE kits need to be in school every day.
- \* Reading diaries will be checked every Wednesday.
- \* Spelling test is every Friday. 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 learning 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 looking at WW1 poetry, letters and diaries. We will also look at newspapers and historical narrative. As always, we will continue our routine spelling and grammar lessons, and we will use the Talk for Writing approach

in our



writing, in order to embed key vocabulary and grammar in specific writing genres.

### Maths

In maths, we will be continuing to learn about addition and subtraction, as well as multiplication and division. 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 so they can enjoy our weekly times table tester on a Monday, too.

Please also keep practicing rapid number recall facts with your child. It helps them make further progress when their number knowledge is secure. Thank you.



## Other subjects

Our topic work this term is local history, with a focus on the Victorian era. Our science topic is sound. We will look closely at why pop music is so enjoyable. In RE, our topic is 'What makes a leader worth following?' In Citizenship, our theme is 'Relationships', including

what makes a relationship healthy.

In PE we will be following an excellent new programme covering balance and agility.

In German we will learn about leisure activities and hobbies, and our

computing topic will be programming, coding and controlling a device.

Our DT topic will be Victorian jewellery, which we will look at and take inspiration from in order to make our own.

In music, we will follow our Charanga programme and practise our beautiful singing.

## Showcases and workshops 2018-19

Key Stage 2 will be holding the following workshops and showcases this year, and we would like to warmly invite you to all of them, so that you can find out 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 workshop. Times will be confirmed nearer the time.

We thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you there!

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 3:00 – Falcons computing showcase

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 3:00 – Kestrels computing showcase

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

## Parent information

In Key Stage 2, children must really try hard to learn their times tables, as this will help in their everyday maths lessons. We do a times tables tester on a Monday morning, which is a fun way to check our progress and encourages children to be quick with their recall.

Rapid number recall is another way we keep children fluent with number facts, and they should be practicing maths which relates to their particular step at home. This information will be relayed to you through your child's learning diary.

For times table practice, there are many apps and websites. Here are some we recommend::

[www.timestables.co.uk/](http://www.timestables.co.uk/)

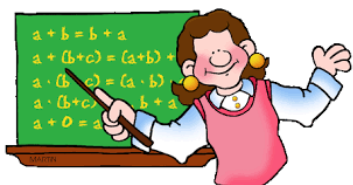
[www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables](http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables)

We expect children to read at least 5 times a week. Please record this in your child's journal so that we are able to see the extent to which they are engaging with reading. Reading has a huge bearing on a child's grasp of grammar and improves their vocabulary infinitely.

A website worth visiting is:

[www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk)

When reading together, talk to your child about what they have read. Ask them to make a prediction. Ask them to show you how they know, by pointing out where in the text they found the information.



## School website

Our school website address is: [www.etwall-primary.eschools.co.uk](http://www.etwall-primary.eschools.co.uk)

We will be updating the class pages under 'children' every week. Keep checking for information and photos of what your children have been doing in class!

Thank you for your support.

## 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. 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.





## Anti-bullying week

Etwell Primary School will be taking part in National Anti-Bullying week between 12th-16th November. Please support us with this important work by reinforcing the anti-bullying messages that we continuously reinforce in school. Thank you for your continued support.



## School uniform and PE kit

We'd like to take the opportunity to remind you of the importance of children bringing in the correct kit for PE and swimming.

### PE:

- white T-shirt, blue/black shorts
- short white socks and clean trainers

**swimming:** trunks/costume, towel & cap

Please ensure these are all clearly labelled with your child's name.

## Key dates for your diary

- 5th November — Back to school!
- 7th November — KS2 visit to St Helen's Church WW1 exhibition
- 9th November — Book Swap Friday & PTFA fireworks event
- 12th — 16th November — Anti-bullying week
- 15th November — School Council Children in Need fundraising event
- 26th November — PTFA disco — 3:45 KS1; 5:00 KS2
- 4th December 3:00 — Falcons computing showcase
- 7th December — PTFA Secret Santa & Kestrels computing showcase 3:00
- 10th December — PTFA Christmas Hamper Raffle
- 13th December — KS2 Christmas Carol Concert 2:00pm and 6:00pm
- 14th December — School Council Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children
- 18th December — UKS2 Christmas party
- 19th December — Christmas lunch
- 21st December — End of term
- 9th April — KS2 Easter service at St Helen's Church; 9:30

## 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.



## Parent helpers

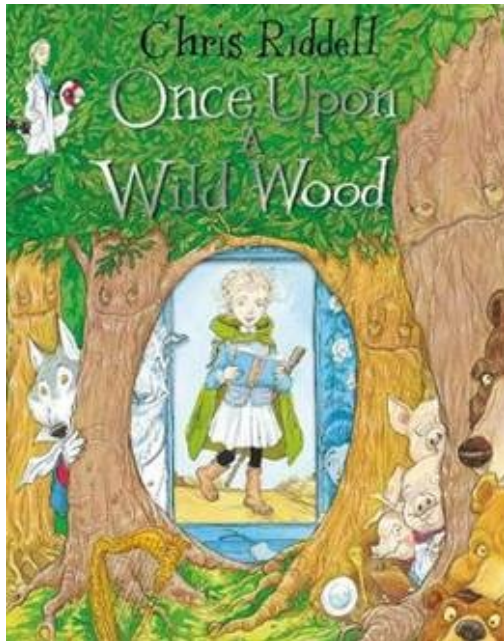
If any parents/grandparents etc could spare half a day a week (or more!) to listen to children read, they would be made very welcome, and it would be very much appreciated. The more children read the better, and the more confident they become. Please could you let your child's teacher know if you are able to help. Thank you.

## 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 Etwell Primary School families whose children are attending the residential. All you need to do is mention the school.

## Recommended Reads



### Once upon Wild Wood by Chris Riddell

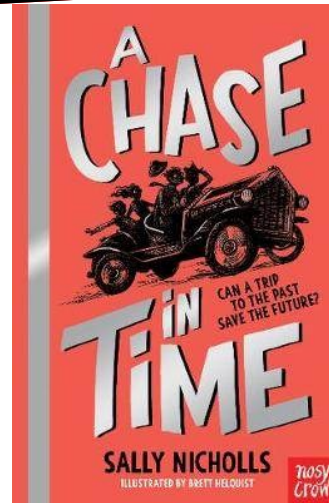
A brand-new fairytale character, Little Green Rain Cape, sets off through the wild woods on her way to Rapunzel's birthday party.

On the way, she meets and helps a host of beloved fairytale characters, from The Beast to the Seven Dwarves and the Three Little Pigs, in this mixed-up new fairytale.

A truly delightful picture book that children of all ages will love, especially slightly older children who will enjoy the wonderful illustrations and unusual plot!



## Recommended Reads



### A chase in Time by Sally Nicholls

Every summer, Alex and his elder sister Ruby spend two weeks at Applecott House, their great-aunt's bed and breakfast. They love the grand old building, which is full of fascinating artefacts from all over the world.

When Alex and Ruby pass the ornate French mirror in the hallway one evening, they are astounded to see two other children reflected back at them. Toppling through the mirror in surprise, they find themselves in Applecott House of 1912, and come face to face with their ancestors Henry and Dora.

Alex and Ruby are quickly swept up in a whirl of excitement. They thoroughly enjoy their visit to the past, but will they be able to find their way back to their own time?

This rip-roaring time-slip novel has a fast-paced plot and entertaining characters. With black-and-white line drawings illustrating each chapter, this first tale in the series is ideal for confident young readers with an interest in history.

