



Waterhouses CE Primary Academy

Celebrate Learning, Achieving and Friendship in God's Love

Happy New Year to everyone! It's been a rather unexpectedly busy first week back, but a good one nonetheless! I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the Penguins for their impeccable behaviour whilst the inspectors were in our school and for making some fantastic contributions to the inspection process. Bamber, the lead inspector, took quite a shine to our children I think!

Below is some key information for you and your child about the rest of this half term. Please do take the time to remind them of the organisation of the week and encourage them to take responsibility for organising their own PE, swimming kits and forest school gear as well as remembering when homework is due in! On the reverse of this letter, you will find further details about our topic for this half term. The content outlined may not be happening quite in the order listed and there will be a few tweaks to some of the activities, but the science focus will remain the same.

As always, we operate an open door policy so please feel free to come and see us at any point if you'd like clarification about anything and remember, our school website is a great place to keep up to speed with our latest adventures.

Kind Regards,

Mr Dodson



Christian Values

This half term our Christian value is **forgiveness** and our current British Value is **individual liberty**. As well as our **core Christian Values: Love, Hope, Respect and Trust**, our worship and some PSHE lessons will be focused on our current value. Please discuss our values with your child and think of ways they can demonstrate/develop these values this half term.

School Planners

Please remember that there are a plethora of useful resources at the back of your child's planner for home learning support. Your child's planner is also a tool of communication between home and school. We are actively encouraging the children to track their own learning by filling out their planners frequently so please do ensure they are brought into school every day to record in-class reading and to be used as a learning support tool.

PE Days

Key Stage 2 PE (Years 3-6) takes place on a **Wednesday** afternoon. Reminders about correct PE kit can be found in your child's school planner. The Key Stage 2 after school club continues every Wednesday.



Swimming will take place every Monday afternoon. **Please remember swimming hats are an essential part of your child's swim kit.** Hats in house colours can be purchased from the office if required.

Forest School will take place every **Friday** afternoon. Waterproofs and warm clothing essential!

Health and Safety

Please ensure that earrings are taken out for PE and swimming. All children must have access to water throughout the school day, but especially on PE days. Your child should have a clean, labelled water bottle in school at all times.

Weekly Organisation Summary

Monday—Spelling test and swim kits. New spellings set.

Wednesday—PE Kit and after-school sports (if applicable)

Thursday—Homework due in and chess club (if applicable)

Friday—Homework where appropriate



Homework

Reading is a very important part of your child's learning. Children in Key Stage 2 are expected to read for **20 minutes a day** and record this in their school planners. Your child will have a levelled Accelerated Reader book to read at home. Please discuss your child's reading book with them before they complete their quiz to check their understanding.

Spellings are usually sent home every Monday and are tested the following Monday (text updates will be sent out if these days change). Details of the spelling patterns covered in class will be attached to the top of the spelling homework sheets. Spelling homework can be completed on the sheets that will be sent home.

Mental maths continues to be a key focus in school this year and to supplement our Under the Sea scheme, we are using Times Tables Rockstars. We are expecting the children to log onto the programme at home to continue their rehearsal of key multiplication facts. **10 minutes each day** would make a marked difference in your child's ability and speed of recalling these crucial facts. Progress towards Under the Sea mental maths targets will be tested and rewards given in celebration assemblies for children completing their target levels and achievements on Timestables Rockstars.