



Welcome back and Happy New Year 2023! I hope you all had a superb Christmas and New Year break. I have really enjoyed welcoming the children back into school.

You are invited to our Launch Pad on Friday 13th at 13:30 to support your child to study a river, looking at the River Thames from its source to the mouth as part of our new theme Misty Mountain, Winding River.

Curriculum: In the Misty Mountain, Winding River project, your child will learn about the characteristics and physical processes of rivers, including how they shape the landscape over time, their significance around the world and the impact of flooding. They will learn how to use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and a key to locate and plot geographical places and features on a map, as well as how contour lines are used to show the topography of an area. They will have the opportunity to learn about the stages of the water cycle and about mountains and their different formations, studying mountain ranges in the United Kingdom and around the world. They will also learn about habitats and how human and natural influences can have an impact on the environment.

Forest School: Forest School will take place every Wednesday afternoon **starting on 11th January 2023**. Please make sure your child comes to school with appropriate waterproof clothing and sturdy walking shoes so that they can fully take part in all activities. A small personal hand sanitizer is also permitted.

Y4 (MTC): The multiplication tables check (MTC) is statutory for primary schools and takes place in the summer term. The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently. Please continue to support your Y4 child to practice rapid recall of ALL times tables to 12 x 12 on the Doodle times table platform as well as on the TTRockstars sound check platform. Our class focus will be x7, x9 and x12 this half term.

PE: PE will normally take place on Friday afternoons with a focus on dance skills and sequences this term. As there may be last minute timetable changes PE kits must be in school all week. As a reminder the kit should include: a named T-shirt, shorts/tracksuit bottoms and trainers/pumps.

Reading: We will be reading our new class novel, King of the Cloud Forests by Michael Morpurgo with attention to enhancing our comprehension skills, 'digging deep' into the text and reading for pleasure. Please continue to read with your child daily. Your child will be able to change completed reading books when needed as soon as they come into school each day. On-going assessments will be completed and your child will move book colour bands when appropriate.

Supporting your child at Home: Throughout the week, time spent on Doodle Maths, Spelling, English and Times Tables as well as TT Rockstars will support your child in achieving curriculum objectives. Your child will be tested every Tuesday on their times table knowledge and given a times table challenge in their reading record for the following Tuesday. A homework celebration takes place each Friday, which gives your child a chance to present their homework projects to the class should they wish to.

Spelling: 'Spelling Bee' will continue! Each Friday, your child will take part in our fun 'Spelling Bee' game using the words on the common exception word list. We will work our way through the words in alphabetical order. Your child's spelling folder will contain 10 spellings which are individual to your child. Please be sure to practice these daily to help your child succeed in their individual spelling tests.

Jigsaw (Dreams and Goals and Healthy Me) As part of our RSE curriculum this term, the children will be learning to plan and set new goals for themselves. They will be able to explain why being resilient /having a positive attitude contributes to having a greater chance of success. During the second half term, children will recap what is meant by a healthy lifestyle. Children will problem-solve and identify a variety of strategies in different situations where they may experience peer pressure. Children will work together to identify feelings of anxiety and fear associated with peer pressure and will discuss strategies to manage these to help make safe and healthy choices.

If you have any questions or would like to contact me, please catch me at the school gate once the children are dismissed.

Kind regards,

Mrs Goodwin
Yr 3/4 teacher
