



Happy New Year! I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas with your families.

As part of our topic this term, 'Frozen Kingdom', Danube Class will be taking part in the 2041 School Mission to become Champions of Antarctica and place St. David's School within the worldwide 2041 school community. In 2041, the Antarctica Treaty expires and the future of the last great wilderness on earth will be decided. Environmentalists hope that the treaty will be extended for another 50 years – or, even better, that a new agreement will be put in place that protects Antarctica forever. All of the children in Danube Class will be young adults in 2041 – the decision makers of the future. Antarctica will need them on her side.

Throughout our topic (and beyond), Danube Class will learn about Antarctica, the treaty and the action needed in order for this amazing continent to remain safely in all its splendour. We will aim to keep the profile of Antarctica alive by setting ourselves new learning challenges, linking with Robert Swan (one of the greatest living explorers) and using resources accessible to us and created by a range of dedicated and amazing environmentalists. Through the wonderful world of technology, we will be taken on expeditions around Antarctica from the comfort of our classroom. Please see the curriculum map for further information on subjects this half term.

Reading: Your child will continue to read for information and purpose across the curriculum and will continue to bring home set reading and a task to complete every Thursday. Your child is expected to bring the completed task into school on the next day (Friday) to support his/her role within the following day's literature circle. In addition, your child is expected to continue to read their own independent reading books and keep a record of reading in his/her reading diary. We will visit the school library each Wednesday, when your child will be given the opportunity to borrow and return books.

Book Display: Our weekly book display and presentation will continue until all children have had a turn. The displays, already presented since the beginning of the year, have been well-prepared and confidently shared; enticing all of us to read new and exciting books.

Supporting your child at home: Every Tuesday, your child will be given homework in a homework folder to support learning in class. Please ensure your child brings the folder, with homework completed, back to school each Monday. The weekly 'spelling bee' will take place on Fridays and will include a range of words that your child will be expected to be able to spell by the end of Key Stage 2. The weekly spelling list will be in your child's homework folder.

The homework 'take away' suggestions are to develop your child's interest in subjects focused on throughout the term. Your child may choose any of the homework options from the homework take away menu, which can be presented to the class during our homework celebration on Friday afternoons. It is generally expected that your child completes at least two homework activities throughout the Spring Term (Jan-March). The homework celebration time is enjoyed by us all and a highlight of the week.

Please remember that your child also has access to Doodle Maths, Spelling, English and Times Tables as well as TT Rockstars. Daily time spent on these Apps at home will most definitely support your child in achieving curriculum objectives English and maths.

PE: Dance will normally take place in the hall each **Monday** afternoon. PE kit must be in school all week. Your child will need to bring appropriate PE kit, consisting of a red T-shirt, black shorts and trainers/pumps.

Forest School: Forest school will take place every Wednesday afternoon. Your child may come to school in their Forest School kit. It is much colder now so your child must bring appropriate warm clothing, waterproof trousers and jacket, a hat and gloves as well as sturdy footwear to wear outside.

If you have any questions or would like to speak with me, please catch me at the school gate once the children are dismissed or contact the office. Here's to an exciting half term!

Kind regards,
Mrs Norman
Yr 5/6 teacher
