

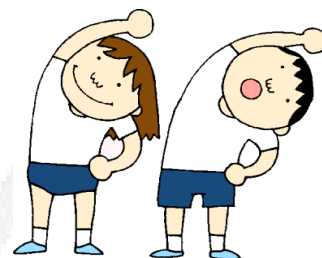
Autumn - Term 1 and 2 – Stingrays Parent Newsletter

Dear Parents,

We would like to welcome you back and give you some information to help you and your child settle into Stingrays. We hope you had a good break from school and that the children are well rested and ready for the new school year.

PE Kit:

PE days in Term 1 will be **Mondays** and **Fridays** and in term 2 the children will do PE on **Mondays** and swim on **Fridays**. Your child's kit needs to be in school every day just in case these sessions change for any reason. Please make sure that they have navy blue shorts, t-shirt, trainers and appropriate warm clothing for going outside. Feel free to take your child's kit home on a Friday if it needs washing but do please remember to send it back in on a Monday. Please remember to label all PE kit, school tops, jumpers and trainers/shoes. This is also important for all uniform and coats.



Homework:

Stingrays' homework is set and handed in as detailed below. We expect all homework to be completed to the same standard as any work they would do in their books at school and any homework which is not presented at a suitable standard may have to be re-done.

Tuesday (*Homework set by Mrs Churchill*)

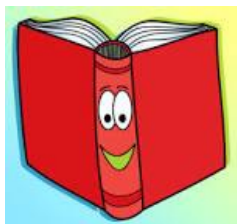
1. **Maths** - A piece of maths homework to be completed by the following Monday. They will do this homework in their homework book. We would also like them to practise their times tables and other key number recall facts- e.g number bonds to 10 or 100. Mrs Churchill will keep the children informed of the times table the children should be focusing on. Hit the Button, which can be on the following link, <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> is a great way to practise times tables and number facts. Please note that this will change during the 'Healthy Schools Homework Project', details of which are set out below.
2. **Reading** – A piece of reading homework to be completed by the following Monday. For Year 5 children this will be a comprehension linked to one of the articles in the children's newspaper that we have in school. For the Year 4 children this will be a puzzle linked to an article from the same paper. Again, this will be completed in their homework book.

Friday (*homework set by Ms Leaver*)

Spellings or word and sentence work will be given out on Friday to be handed in on the following Friday. This homework should be completed in their spelling book.

If homework is not handed in on time then children are expected to complete it during lunchtime.

Reading – It is still vital that your child reads daily, preferably with you or at least discusses what they have read with you. This has a real impact on all of their work and really increases the vocabulary they are able to use in their written work. Please encourage them to record their reading in their yellow reading record.



Please help your child to organise their time to complete all these tasks on time.

Bicester Healthy New Town Maths Homework Initiative

As detailed in our letter of 7th September we are taking part in an initiative to make maths' homework more exciting and interactive for both parents and children. The activities in this project will focus on active ways to practise their number facts such as times tables and number bonds (including decimals). For the project to be successful it is vital that an adult attends a workshop with their child. Please make sure you complete the reply slip attached to that letter. We will explain at the workshop the changes to the children's maths homework.

Water bottles:



Please remember to send your child in with a named water bottle which they can keep in the classroom as drinks from the water fountain are only available during break and lunch times.

Curriculum

The topic this term is called 'Infinity and Beyond'. We will be using the IPADS to help record what they have learnt about the solar system, which will include looking at all the planets in the solar system, explaining day and night and why the moon appears to change shape. We are currently arranging a trip for later in the term to help with this learning. The trip will involve a visit to the Museum of the History of Science in Oxford which will include 2 workshops for the children. Much of our English work will have a 'space' theme, as will their artwork. The children have already done some fantastic 'Earth from Space' pictures.

Attendance

Good attendance is vital for success, so please bear in mind that if your child is well enough to potter about at home then they are probably well enough to be in school. As long as they always work hard and join in with enthusiasm then they will have personal success.

Problems and Concerns:

We all hope that everything runs smooth this year but would stress that if you do have any problems or concerns that you come and see one of us as soon as possible. Mornings are always busy but we will find time if it is urgent. Otherwise please catch us before school to arrange a time when we can meet to discuss your concern in more detail.

Kathryn Churchill, Jane Leaver and Hellen Sharp