**Spring Term – Stingray Parent Newsletter**

Dear Parents,

We all hope you had a great Christmas and wish you and your families all the best for 2017.We hope you had a good break from school and that the children are well rested and ready for another hard working term.

**PE Kit:**

PE this term will be on **Tuesday** and the children will continue to 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:**

 Stingray’s 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 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.
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.

**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.

![C:\Users\kathryn.churchill\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\ZZYFNIV4\pcc_viking_draft_by_alias_bill[1].png]()**Curriculum**

The topic this term is called ‘Vicious Vikings and Savage Saxons’. We started work on this topic with some fantastic art work - there is already a gallery of very vicious looking Vikings in our classroom. Much of their English, Art and DT will be linked to the topic. We hope to have a visit from a ‘Viking’ later in the term - so keep checking your e mail for details. We are also looking forward to our trip to the Sheldonian Theatre to listen to music performed by the Oxfordshire Youth Orchestra.

**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 continues to run smoothly this year but would stress that if you do have any problems or concerns that you come and see one 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