

Dear Parents / carers,

Welcome back and I hope you all had a lovely summer break. I'm very much looking forward to teaching Phoenix Class this year and we have a busy year ahead and lots of learning planned. Here are a few things I thought you may find helpful to know;

Topics

This year we have three main topics which are;

- Invasion
- Rocks, relics and Rumbles
- Ancient Civilisations

We are currently in the process of organising a curriculum information evening for KS2 parents – more details about this will follow in due course.

Home Learning tasks

The children will shortly receive a Home Learning book. Each term a letter will be attached with ideas of topic related home learning projects that could be done at home to extend their classroom learning. At the end of each term there will be a sharing afternoon and an opportunity for the children to share their projects with other members of the class. The children have really enjoyed this in the past and it will hopefully work well and be enjoyed again this year.

Reading

Please continue to encourage the children to read daily and record it in their reading diaries. If they are reading independently, please talk to them about what they have read, there are some questions attached to help with this. Comprehension is really important in Key Stage 2, as is continuing to read for pleasure and broadening vocabulary.

Spellings

Children's spelling will be assessed regularly through their writing. Support in learning spellings at home is really beneficial and lists will be provided where appropriate to help with this.

Times Tables

A rapid recall of times tables is really important this year. Please help your child to learn them off by heart - all children are now expected to know their times tables (up to 12x12) by the end of Year 4, out of order and mixed up; answering each question accurately within 5 seconds. Children will be provided with a Times Tables Rockstars login if they do not have one already to help with this. To encourage the children, there will also be a class times table challenge which will be explained in class.

Water bottles

Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school every day. We will keep them in school during the week and send them back home on a Friday. Children will have access to these during the school day including break and lunchtimes. They will be freshly filled each day.

PE

Please ensure children have their PE kits in school every day so they are able to participate in PE lessons and clubs.

Tuesday afternoons

On a Tuesday afternoon Mrs Honour will be teaching the children French and Ms Lawton will be teaching PE.

Homeroom and contacting me

If you have not received one already, you will shortly receive an invite via email to the 'Phoenix Class 2023-24' Homeroom page. Here we will share some of our learning and experiences over the year.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any support. I can be contacted via email at; phoenixhomework@stpeters.oxon.sch.uk. For any urgent messages, please contact the school office and these will be passed on during the school day. Alternatively, please do come and see me on the playground at the end of the school day I'm very happy to talk and look forward to getting to know you more.

Thank you,

Mike Wise
Class teacher