



Chillerton and Rookley Primary School and Early Learners
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Tuesday 30th April

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we begin the first half of the Summer Term I would like to take this opportunity to say a big 'well done' to all our children for their hard work and to you their parents/carers, for your continued support! Our trip to the Zoo last half term was a huge success. The staff at the Zoo were most welcoming! It was incredibly educational as it was fun 😊

This half term Year 2s will continue lessons but there will be a focus on the SATs assessments which have to be completed nationally by the end of May. Dates will follow very shortly.

Literacy lessons in Year 3 will be driven by an amazing text by Carol Ann Duffy and Jane Ray called 'The Lost Happy Endings'. There will also be extracts from a variety of traditional and twisted fairytales to study, especially as part of their Guided Reading sessions. Year 2 text will be reading 'The True Story of the Three Little Pigs' by Jon Scieszka. Attached to this letter is a class timetable and a Topic Web for this half term.

A trip to Carisbrooke Castle has been planned for after half term, unfortunately we have had to change the date. Further information will follow so please do check the children's book bags over the coming weeks 😊

Once again, I include some ideas and suggestions of things that could support your child.

- *We all know how important it is that children regularly read aloud to an adult but it is also important that they hear you modelling reading to them. Make it fun. Use silly, comical or strange voices and immerse them in the story as much as possible.*
- *Holidays and weekends are an ideal opportunity for extended reading. Allow them to choose some books from home, or one of the I.O.W. County libraries. Children need to engage in reading and therefore experience a wide variety of genres, such as fiction, poems, myths/legends, non-fiction, animal facts books, comics and cartoon strips, reference books, 'First News' (a children's weekly newspaper) etc. Read signs, notices or labels when out and about 😊*
- *Questioning for understanding is vital to ensure your child can not only read the words but also contextualise them.*
- *Practising number bonds (to 10/20/100), as well as times tables will keep them on their toes!*

Year 2s 2x, 5x, 10x & skip counting in 3s

Year 3s As for Year 2 plus 3x, 4x, 8x, 9x ... speedy recall is the aim, multiplication & division.

Practise mental recall, questioning them when they least expect it! Use a pack of playing cards too. Practise adding and subtracting, even multiplying, dividing or ordering the digits on vehiclenumber plates when driving. Above all make it fun! 😊

With home reading, please encourage your child to experience as wide a variety of books as possible and write these in their reading records for us to see what types of books they are reading. The school reading scheme (the different coloured books that go home every night) are designed to be within their capabilities; to encourage enjoyment and confidence with reading, not just decoding new words. (This is reinforced in class whilst we are studying more challenging texts, fiction and non-fiction). Meanwhile your child may also have a book they like to read at home. Do record these books as well in the journals, indicating whether it was a read alone book or a shared experience. I am sending your child home with a bookmark which I hope that you will find helpful in getting ideas to question your child about his/her book. The comprehension of the material they read is vital to the reading experience and your child's inevitable progress.

For every shared reading session at home, reading and discussing the content, your child will receive a reading point. The children can earn certificates for 25, 50 or 100 reading points. Points can be banked so that on finally receiving 100 points they get to choose a book to keep from a range of books we have here in school. However, if they choose to have a dip in a goodies box after earning 25 points they return to 0 and begin again.

It is therefore very important to record each and every shared reading session with your child 😊

We hope that the suggestions above are of use to you and your child(ren). We would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support from home. It really does make a difference in their learning 😊

Yours Sincerely
Thelma Cutter
Class 2 Teacher ... Years 2 & 3