

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! Wishing you all a wonderful year ahead. The children have returned back to school full of enthusiasm and with a positive attitude towards their learning. It is great to have them back and I look forward to continuing to teach them.

This letter is to recap our class routines and to inform you of any changes or upcoming events this half term. The overview of Year 4's curriculum this half term is also attached to this letter.

School Day

Just a reminder that children can be dropped off, at the main entrance, between 8:40am and 8:50am. Our school day begins at 8:50am and it is important that they are here on time for the start of the first lesson. If needed, Breakfast Club runs in the school hall from 7:40am.

Times Tables

We will be having a big focus on times tables this term to support children's progress and to get them prepared for the Multiplication Tables Check Assessment, that all Year 4 children will complete nationally in June. The children will be having regular opportunities in school to practise their times tables and I will be encouraging them to do this regularly at home too. I will send written homework for them but they should also make use of online resources too which I have shared below.

Each child has a login to Emile, a fun learning platform, and they should continue to use this. If your child does not know their login, please ask me and I will send it to you.

www.urbrainy.com/mtc

This website is great as it replicates the MTC assessment, helping children to get used to the layout of the assessment process. You can also download this as an app too.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

Hit the Button is a great game which develops recall through a quick fire, interactive game. This can also be downloaded as an app.

Every Monday, there will be a lunch time times tables club for the children to attend, if they wish to.

Spellings

Every Monday, the children will learn or recap a new spelling rule. They will have opportunities in class throughout the week to practise their spellings. To consolidate their understanding with this, they will bring their spelling list home to recap over the weekend, which they will then be assessed on at the beginning of the spelling lesson on the following Monday. This will be kept in their homework folders/books which need to be in school every day with them.

Reading

At Holy Redeemer, we are continuing to focus on developing children's reading including both for pleasure and for progress. Children are expected to read at least 4 times a week and this should be recorded in their reading records. It is great that children are reading independently in their free time, but it is still important that they read with an adult so that they can develop their comprehension of the text and widen their vocabulary and understanding further. Each child has been given a 'rainbow reading reward chart' for this half term and when they read they will be rewarded with a sticker. They can then win reading prizes for reaching a total of 10, 20 and 30 stickers.

Homework

Some weeks, there will be some additional homework set for children, but this will not be on a specific day. This may be an activity to further extend learning in a particular subject area or an unhomework task linked to the current topic.

Uniform

Please can you ensure that your child brings a coat with them to school during these colder months. Depending on the weather conditions, children may be unable to go out for play time if they haven't got a coat with them.

PE will continue to be on Monday afternoons, however children are required to have their PE kits in school with them every day for other sport sessions that may happen. Please can you make sure that their kits are clearly labelled with their names. Thank you.

Pioneer Centre

Our residential visit to the Pioneer Centre is fast approaching and I would like to invite you all to a meeting on Monday 17th January to share more information about this and to answer any questions you may have.

If you wish to discuss anything further, please contact me via email me on: ht66@holyredeemer.worcs.sch.uk. If you would prefer to talk directly then either see me at the end of the school day or contact the school office, during school hours, and I will call you back at a convenient time.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Taylor