

Our ethos theme for next week is:

We stay motivated when doing something challenging

Dear Parents,

It's been a long half-term, and we all deserve a lovely break. As we approach the short half-term holiday, I wanted to give the children some time to relax and refresh before the next push through to Easter.

A decision has been made across the school that there will be no compulsory homework given. Any usual weekly homework tasks, reading each day and spelling assignments will be due when we return. Additionally, if the children can learn their drama poem during the break as we will be listening to them recite them straight after the holidays. This will allow them to showcase their vocal skills and boost their confidence.

In English this week, the children have been focusing on enhancing their writing skills using the ISPACE technique, which encourages them to begin their sentences in varied ways. We emphasized the importance of adding relative clauses, good conjunctions, and descriptive adjectives to engage their audience. Alongside this, the children completed a comprehension exercise and have been finishing off work.

In Maths the children have been consolidating their knowledge of long division. They also revisited multiplying fractions.

During history lessons, the children completed a fact file about Henry I.

In Geography, the children continued to learn about the Tundra biome.

In RE (Religious Education), the children deepened their understanding of Buddhism and focused on the Four Noble Truths. This provided them with valuable insights into different beliefs and fostered their appreciation for cultural diversity.

Throughout our PSHEE (Personal, Social, Health, and Economic Education) discussions, we focused on managing worries and taught the children how to help themselves when they feel anxious. This vital life skill aims to enhance their emotional well-being and resilience.

Spring Festival:

In Drama, Mrs Taylor-Parker has given out the poems for the Festival. Each child is required to choose one of the poems to learn by heart. After half term, on Monday 19th February, everyone will perform their chosen poem individually for the class. We will select the six children who perform the best, and they will perform for Mrs Taylor-Parker, who will select the final three from each of the Junior classes.

She will then work with these finalists until the competition during the Spring Festival. The children will be judged by an external adjudicator when they finally perform with the other finalists.

You have received an email today with details about the musical classes for the Spring Festival. Please take note of any deadlines for the performance/heat dates. It is a great opportunity for the children to showcase their talent, so please encourage your child to take part if they are learning an instrument or would like to enter the Solo Singing. All children are singing with their House Choir, so they must learn their House song by Wednesday 21 February. The songs and backing tracks for Spring Festival House singing are on Seesaw

Finally, our recommended read this week is: 'The Clockwork Conspiracy' by Sam Sedgeman. This adventure-packed novel combines a carefully crafted mystery with mind-bending science, math, and fascinating facts about our democracy, London landmarks, and the measurement of time. The story revolves around the disappearance of Isaac's father, the Chief Horologist responsible for Big Ben. Isaac teams up with his new friend Hattie to solve puzzles, unravel codes, and uncover a diabolical plot lurking within the government. They embark on a thrilling rooftop-navigating quest across London to save Isaac's father, the country, and time itself. This book promises excitement, drama, witty dialogue, and relatable main characters, making it a must-read for our young learners.

I hope you and your children enjoy a delightful holiday filled with beautiful memories.

Best wishes,

Laura Hazell and Valentina Kalaj

Calendar Dates:

February	
Mon 19	Return to School after the Half Term Break