

Upper Key Stage 2 Weekly Newsletter

Friday 10th November 2017

Dear parents/carers,

In a week that has been overshadowed by the tragic loss of a friend and colleague, the children reacted with the utmost respect and understanding. As you can imagine it has - and continues to be - a difficult time for all at St Ebbe's, but the compassion and kindness shown by your children is something you should all be very proud of.

We will continue next week with a focus of division (chunking and bus stop) in numeracy and character description in literacy.

We must apologise for any confusion over a money request for a year 6 trip via parent mail. We have planned a year 6 trip to see *A Christmas Carol* at the North Wall Arts Centre in December. Further information will be going home with the children today.

Past SATs papers

If you are starting to think ahead towards SATs and practising some past papers, we are asking if you could please not attempt to do the 2017 SATs papers as these will be used for the children's mock SATs in February.

Mr Godby and Mr Stowe.

Pick up and drop off:

Please come into school in the mornings via the side gates (into the main playground or into the EYFS playground). These gates will be opened just before 8.40 a.m. so that children can go straight into classes.

- ii. Please avoid coming through reception unless you need to speak to our administrators – please ring for entry.*
- iii. We provide breakfast club for children who regularly need to arrive before 8.40 a.m. (please speak to Steph Lowe to enrol). Parents should deliver children to breakfast club by using the after-school-club bell and entering via the hall doors.*
- iv. For those who occasionally arrive early, children may wait in the hall (although parents should be aware that this is not supervised) from 8.30 a.m. until classes are open at 8.40 a.m. Please could parents ring at reception for children to come in (not the bell for breakfast club).*
- v. Afternoons – the two side gates will be opened just before 3 p.m. Children in EYFS to Y3 will be handed back to parents. Please could children in the KS2 building meet parents in an agreed spot outside on the playground.*
- vi. If you are late collecting, children should go to the blue chairs in reception to wait. When you arrive, please come to reception to sign them out.*

Parent Councillors:

The start of the academic year means that we are looking for parent councillors. If you are interested in either of these posts please contact Simon Bridson-Jones simon@bridson-jones.com or Malcom Cubitt mcubitt@gmail.com.

The parent council meets with our parent governors and the head or deputy head teacher, to raise issues and ideas that could improve our school.

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We are also needing a class representative (could be the same person if you are keen!) to convene cake sales and liaise between the class and parents.

If you are interested in this position please contact SESA sesastebbes@gmail.com

Looking for a fun game to learn times tables, doubles, squared numbers and number bonds? Click [here](#) for a link to the 'Hit the Button' website.

Homework

There has been a query regarding times tables and how children are being challenged. At the beginning of the year the children start back at the two times table. When they get them right without any errors they move onto the next number. Mrs Robson has challenged all of the children to reach their twelve times table; receiving a chocolate cake as a reward. From there, the children continue with 0.2 through to 1.2.

If your child is on a times table that they are confident with, an additional challenge may be:

- Learn the inverse e.g $4 \times 5 = 20$, $20 / 5 = 4$.
- Time yourself, how quickly can you recall them?
- Jumble them up
- Make the times table 10 x bigger / smaller!
- Don't stop at 12, carry on to 19!

Homework consists of:

- **Times tables** (set by Mrs Robson)
- **Spellings** (choice of activities – one / week)
- **Takeaway** (project work that is linked to our termly topic)
- **My Maths** (set by their maths teacher)

Homework books are expected to be handed in on a Wednesday and will be handed back to the children on Friday. Please remind the children to hand their books in on time so that they can be marked.

A few children have found navigating *My Maths* and completing the tasks tricky. Unfortunately, you cannot save your progress and then return later to complete your task. This means that the children have to complete their *My Maths* task in one session. Another issue has been not saving work after completing a task. When you complete your task and a result is given, your session is automatically saved and you can close the screen. If you press *next* it will reset the session and all progress will be lost.

The maths tasks are usually linked to our focus in numeracy for that week. If your child logs onto *My Maths* and finds the task too challenging please do not panic! It is absolutely fine for them to attempt some of their own number problems, using the weeks focus, in their homework book.

If you are unsure about any element of the homework please do not hesitate to come and see us. We hope that this is useful, and please let us know if there are any queries.

Forest School:

Mr Godby's class will be at forest school next term. Mr Mullins has spoken to the children and a letter will go home with more information.

Key dates:

Haro – Mr Godby

A Christmas Carol @ North Wall Arts Centre
12th of December.

Haro cake sale – 24th November 2017.

Ob – Mr Stowe)

A Christmas Carol @ North Wall Arts
Centre 12th of December.

Ob cake sale – 10th November 2017.

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