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Ramsey Newsletter – Autumn II

I hope you had a lovely break over half term. This term will be busy, with the usual curriculum areas and also our choral singing lessons, which will culminate in a concert towards the end of term (details to follow).

In geography, we will be learning all about North and South America and our art topic links to this as we will be studying work by different American artists. In science, we will be looking at the human circulatory system, finding out how the heart works and the function of the different components of the blood. Our RE topic on how worldviews change over time continues this term and in PSHE, we will be looking more at mental health and how we can stay mentally healthy. Our PE on Mondays is gymnastics and we will also be doing hockey on Thursdays so we will need both indoor and outdoor kits, please.

Homework

Homework will be given out on a **Thursdays** and will be due in the following **Wednesday**. It will compose of one piece of English (usually a grammar focus) and one piece of maths. It is expected that each piece should take approximately 20-30 minutes to complete. If you don't understand the homework or are finding it difficult, please let me know as soon as possible so that I can help. If homework is not handed in on time, it will need to be completed during a lunchtime.

In addition, there will be weekly spellings, which will be tested on **Fridays**. Spellings will need to be learned throughout the week so that they are retained. We recommend the 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' method at least 3 (but preferably 5) times each week. You also need to know the meaning of the words you are learning so that you can then use them in your writing.

Reading

Please use the reading diaries for any reading completed at home. When completing the reading journal, please make sure you include the page numbers so that we can see whether the you are reading for the appropriate amount of time (20-30 minutes or a **minimum** of 15 pages each day is recommended as the amount required for children to make maximum progress in their reading). The expectation we will be setting in Year 6 is that the children read a minimum of **50 pages** over the week. Remember, this does not need to be reading with an adult every time (although it would be great if you did!) and it can be spread over the week. You can write down the pages you have read to save time but it must be signed by an adult. Dojos will be given each time you read at home and the more you read, the more progress you will make in. Remember, you can check whether the books you have at home fit in your Accelerated Reader band by checking on the AR website – please ask if you need help to do this. You should read books at the top end of your book band to make the best progress and be able to understand what you are reading. Extra dojos will also be awarded for each book quiz successfully completed, so it is important that you understand what you are reading.



PE

PE lessons will take place on **Mondays** and **Thursdays**. You will need a full PE kit, consisting of white t-shirt, black/navy shorts and trainers (these are better for outdoor PE). Please note, earrings cannot be worn for any PE. If you struggle to remove your earrings by yourself, you will need to take them out in the morning and then put them back in again when you get home. It is fine for anyone who has had their ears pierced for more than 6 weeks to remove the earrings for short periods without the hole closing. Children with long hair must have it tied back for PE lessons so please bring hair ties or similar with you; thick plastic headbands and hairclips are not appropriate for tying hair back for PE. Tights cannot be work for PE so please remember to pack a spare pair of socks!

Class Dojo

We are still using class dojo for our reward system but you can no longer message us through this. Please send all enquiries to the office with my name in the subject box if you need to contact me. If it is urgent, please phone the school office.

We have a lot of work to get through this term but it is always a fun time with the build-up to Christmas, and I hope you will be able to join us for our singing concert and (for those involved) our Rock Steady Band concert later in December.

Kind regards,

Miss Ratcliff,
Mrs Dunbavand,
Mrs Parnell