

Ramsey Newsletter – Spring I

I hope you had a lovely holiday. This term is shorter but very busy. Shortly, you will be getting information about our trip to Boston Guildhall in March and also about our Big Sing concert at St Botolph's church.

Our history topic this term is all about the Pilgrim Fathers. We will look at why people left for the New World and about the voyage of the Mayflower, which took some people from our local area to New England in 1620. In science, we are looking at forces and asking questions such as how can we make a parachute fall to the ground more slowly and how can I use a lever or a pulley to lift heavy weights? Our D&T topic also has a science focus as we will be designing and making a burglar alarm using electrical circuits. In RE, we will be discussing whether technology is a good or a bad thing when it comes to sharing religious worldviews. Finally, in PSHE, we will be learning about respect, the rule of law and our rights.

We will be taking part in the Boston Big Sing this term. We will learn approximately 10 songs to perform with other schools at St Botolph's Church (the Stump) at the end of March (date to be confirmed). It is always a great event and the children always enjoy it. I hope that many of you will be able to attend the concert.

Homework

Homework will be given out on a **Fridays** 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. Dojos will be taken off for anyone who does not give in their homework without a valid excuse.

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

There are still some children who are not reading enough each day. We do expect that most children should be reading 50 pages or more of their AR book each week. It should not take more than 2-3 weeks for a book to be read. Please make sure you write the page **numbers** in the reading diary. Dojos are given for anyone reading more than 15 pages in each session and for every 25 additional pages. It is a really easy way to accumulate dojos to use at the dojo shop at the end of term – it is also a great way to improve your reading!

PE

PE lessons will take place on **Tuesdays** (indoors) and **Fridays** (outdoors). 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!

Kind regards,

Miss Ratcliff,
Mrs Dunbavand,
Mrs Parnell