



Denton Primary School

Vicarage Lane, Denton, Northampton.NN7 1DT.
Telephone/ Facsimile: 01604 890330

Executive Head: Mrs Louise Brown Website: www.dentonprimary.net

Email: head@denton.northants-ecl.gov.uk bursar@denton.northants-ecl.gov.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back after the summer holiday, I hope the children have had a good break and are ready for the challenges of the new school year. This letter is to let you know what we will be doing in class over the following weeks and how you can help your child this year.

Firstly, we welcome Claire Weedon, who is joining the Upper Key Stage 2 team (mornings only) and will be working alongside Mrs Henman, Miss Burge, Mrs Gilchrist and myself. The plan is to work very closely as a Year 5 and 6 team and as we have now federated this will extend to Yardley Hastings too. Mr Perry will continue to support year 5 in PE and Mrs Dyson will be teaching music.

The first few weeks of the term will focus on place value and consolidation of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Your child should continue to learn their times tables, continuing to use TT Rockstars for this. It is vital that your child learn their tables to 12 x 12 including knowing the division facts – this will help them to multiply numbers quickly, divide numbers quickly, spot number patterns and work out fractions of numbers. Please also make sure that your child continues to practise reading the time on analogue and digital clocks (if they cannot already tell the time).

Our Literacy for the next few weeks will focus on story writing. We will base our writing on the picture book 'Chalk' and then look at how to write effective openings, describe character and setting, include dialogue and innovate plot lines from familiar stories. Spelling and handwriting will be taught separately, however the grammar will fit with story writing - initially relating to sentence structure - and the children will focus on individual targets (skills focuses) to move their writing forward. The children will have spellings each week, given out on a Wednesday and tested the following Wednesday. It is still extremely important that you continue to read and share books with your child and in order to encourage reading and we will be having another reading challenge this term (please look out for details coming home with your child soon)

Homework will be set on a Friday and must be returned by the following Thursday. It will usually consist of a piece of maths work and English to consolidate the week's work. In addition to this there will be spellings and a reading comprehension for anyone who needs practise.

Our overarching project for the term will have a focus on history and we will be studying World War 2 – particularly the experiences of children in Britain during World War 2 and comparing the lives of children in Britain to those in other countries. We shall be cooking from war time recipes after half term and trying out some rag rug making for a make do and mend project. It is intended that nearer Christmas we shall invite parents in for a VE party celebration. If any of you have interesting artefacts to share with the class that relate to that era we would love to hear from you. Similarly, if there are any elderly relatives that experienced evacuation during the war and would be willing to come in and share with the class, please let me know. We have arranged a trip for both Yardley and Denton children to visit Bletchley Park after half term so look out for further details of this coming soon. Our art topic will tie in with history as we look at the war artist Henry Moore and create paintings of the Blitz to accompany poetry.

In science, we begin with the topic of light and in ICT we shall be focusing on both e-safety and word processing skills. RE will look at people of different faiths and how their faith helps them in their lives.

If you have any questions or concerns, or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will do my best to help.

Yours faithfully

Miss Lorna Burrow (Rowan Class teacher)