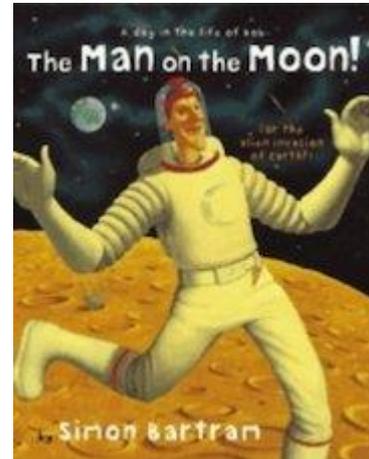


Dear Parents,

April 2021

Welcome back! I hope you all enjoyed the Easter break and are looking forward to being able to get out more over the next few weeks. The children have all come back ready and eager to learn and full of tales from their Easter break.

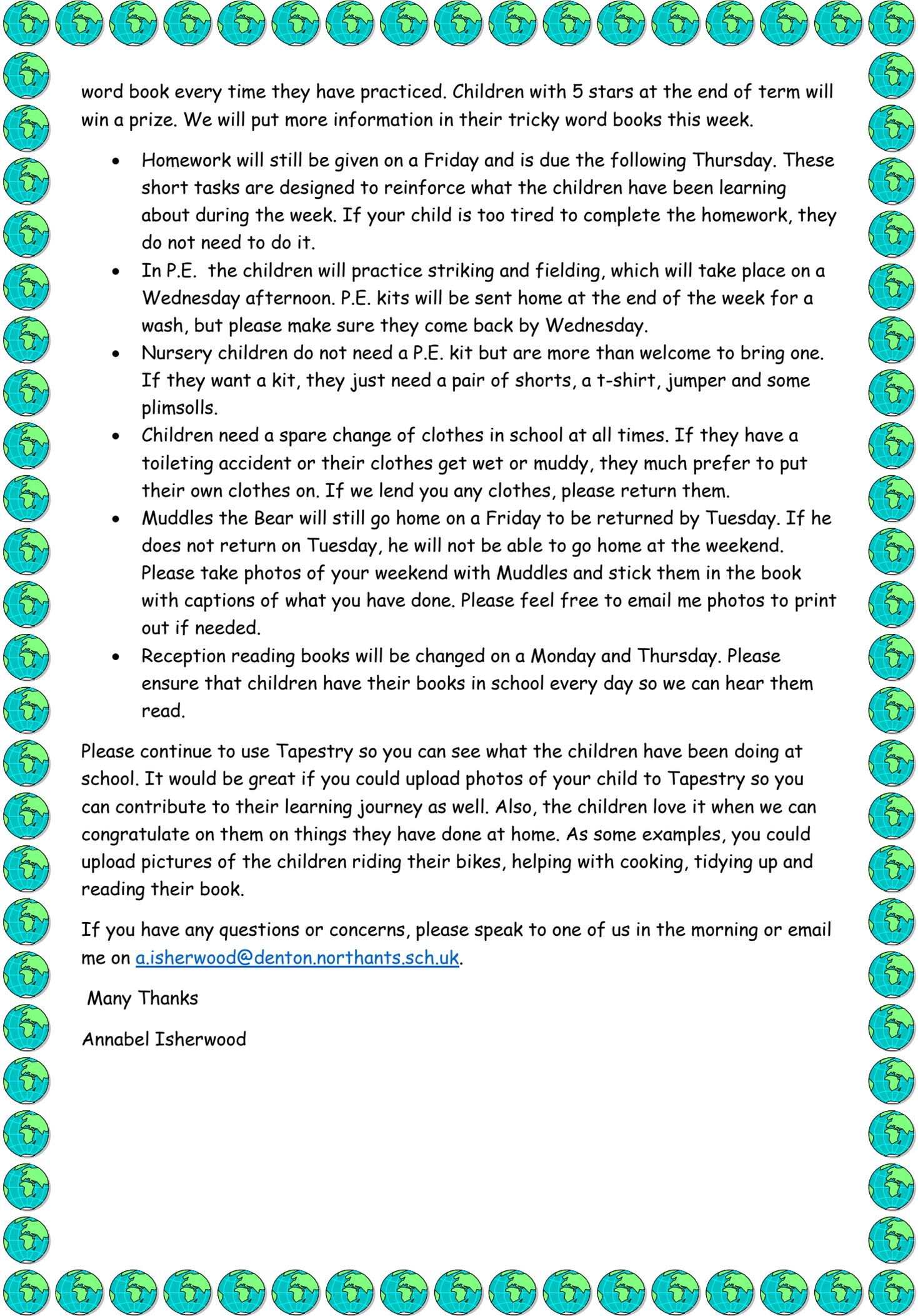
Our topic this term is 'Space' based on the story 'Man on the Moon (a day in the life of Bob)' by Simon Bartram. The children have already predicted what they think will happen in the book and will be learning to retell the story and perform it. We will use this book to complete a variety of literacy activities, including using adjectives, exploring character feelings and what they might say and creating our own story. We will also look at fact files. A large rocket has appeared in the classroom so the children can travel into space and pretend to be an astronaut. In our topic work, we will be learning about famous astronauts, different planets, how to look after the Earth and the moon and sun! There will be lots of opportunities to be creative, including making a papier-mâché earth and clay rockets.



Reception will be learning phase 4 phonics which focuses on consonant blends e.g. fl and mp. They will practice reading and writing words and sentences. When writing, they will practice using full stops, capital letters and finger spaces. We will be focusing on letter formation and reading and spelling tricky words. Nursery will be focusing on understanding the 5 principles of print and reading and writing their name. Some nursery children will be exploring initial sounds while others will be practicing their listening skills.

Linked to the topic, all the children will learn about 2D and 3D shapes. Nursery will learn to recognise the shapes and Reception will learn to recognise and describe them. Reception will be learning to count beyond 10 and will be exploring number patterns by investigating odd and even numbers, sharing, doubling and halving. We will consolidate our knowledge of number composition and number bonds. Nursery will be learning about the numbers to 5 and will practice counting 1:1, recognising and ordering numerals and showing finger numerals. They will practice counting beyond 5. All the children will practice subitising with small amounts. All the children will finish the term by exploring size by ordering and measuring rockets

We have been really pleased with how many Reception children have been earning Reading Stars in previous terms so have changed the challenge to a tricky word challenge. Tricky words are words which the children cannot sound out but will come across often and so they need to learn to read and spell them. Children need to practice their tricky words 4 times a week. Please sign and date in your child's tricky



word book every time they have practiced. Children with 5 stars at the end of term will win a prize. We will put more information in their tricky word books this week.

- Homework will still be given on a Friday and is due the following Thursday. These short tasks are designed to reinforce what the children have been learning about during the week. If your child is too tired to complete the homework, they do not need to do it.
- In P.E. the children will practice striking and fielding, which will take place on a Wednesday afternoon. P.E. kits will be sent home at the end of the week for a wash, but please make sure they come back by Wednesday.
- Nursery children do not need a P.E. kit but are more than welcome to bring one. If they want a kit, they just need a pair of shorts, a t-shirt, jumper and some plimsolls.
- Children need a spare change of clothes in school at all times. If they have a toileting accident or their clothes get wet or muddy, they much prefer to put their own clothes on. If we lend you any clothes, please return them.
- Muddles the Bear will still go home on a Friday to be returned by Tuesday. If he does not return on Tuesday, he will not be able to go home at the weekend. Please take photos of your weekend with Muddles and stick them in the book with captions of what you have done. Please feel free to email me photos to print out if needed.
- Reception reading books will be changed on a Monday and Thursday. Please ensure that children have their books in school every day so we can hear them read.

Please continue to use Tapestry so you can see what the children have been doing at school. It would be great if you could upload photos of your child to Tapestry so you can contribute to their learning journey as well. Also, the children love it when we can congratulate on them on things they have done at home. As some examples, you could upload pictures of the children riding their bikes, helping with cooking, tidying up and reading their book.

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to one of us in the morning or email me on a.isherwood@denton.northants.sch.uk.

Many Thanks

Annabel Isherwood