



Dear Parents,

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2014

Thank you very much indeed for all your lovely presents and cards at Christmas. I really appreciate them. I hope you all had a great festive break. This term we will be covering the following areas:

**Topic:**

**Incredible Inventions**

During this term, the children will be studying the history of inventions, focusing on the Industrial Revolution and the Victorian era. As well as learning about Victorian history, this will link nicely to our Science units on sound, light and electricity, and will eventually lead to them creating their own invention in a Design & Technology project.

**Literacy:**

Persuasion – The children will study the different features and structure of persuasive writing in a variety of forms, eg persuasive letters and adverts. They will be working towards a final outcome of selling their invention from our topic.

A book study – The children will be studying ‘Street Child’ by B Doherty: a book about a young boy during Victorian times.

*Home help ideas:* Encourage and support your child to learn their spellings and reading at least twice a week.

**NUMERACY:**

In numeracy this term we will be covering the following 5 units:

2 Week	2 Weeks	4 Weeks	2 Week	2 Weeks
Handling data	Place Value	Calculation	Shape and Space	Measure

Due to the close links between the units, some of the objectives will be revisited on several occasions.

*Home help ideas:* Encouraging and helping the children to learn their times tables is now of paramount importance. If your child is unsure of their times tables, they should be practising these every day at home. This means that they should be able to answer (almost instantly) quickfire questions e.g. 7x6, 4x8. It is less important that they can count up in order e.g. 1x4, 2x4, 3x4, 4x4 etc. This flexibility allows the children to use them more easily in other situations.

There are also games on the BBC KS2 Bitesize revision website, which can be a fun way for the children to consolidate their previous knowledge and help them to progress to the next stage.

## RE

We will be studying special journeys and why places of pilgrimage are considered sacred. As we reach the end of Term 4, the children's focus will be Easter.

## PE

During terms 3 and 4, PE sessions will be on Wednesday. It may also be necessary to fit in sessions on other days, so children are advised to have PE kits in school every day. The children will be covering Netball.

## Homework:

To fit in with the recommendations of some of you, the homework timetable has been changed since my last curriculum letter.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reading or spelling	Number Clubs & Times Table practice	Reading	Topic	Literacy or Numeracy

Each piece of topic, literacy or numeracy homework must be completed by the following Monday, however with reading and number clubs the children need only bring in a signed homework diary. Spelling homework is due on the Thursday of every week.

As ever, if you need to speak to me about anything at all (no matter how trivial you think it might be) my door is always open. Tuesdays and Fridays are the best days to catch me, however Mondays and Thursdays are also fine for quick enquiries.

Michael Swanson