



Owl

January 2018

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a good holiday.

Reading Homework

Well done to the children for reading a book during the Christmas holidays. It was great to hear them talk about their chosen book with other children; it's led to some useful recommendations and some new-found enthusiasm for reading.

Read Around

Last term, we launched the "Read Around Rome" scheme which aimed to encourage children to read more often at home. This was a great success as many children increased the amount they read with significant results in their fluency. A similar scheme will be in operation this term; please encourage your child to read regularly and frequently: improved fluency has a hugely positive impact on a child's progress across all subjects.

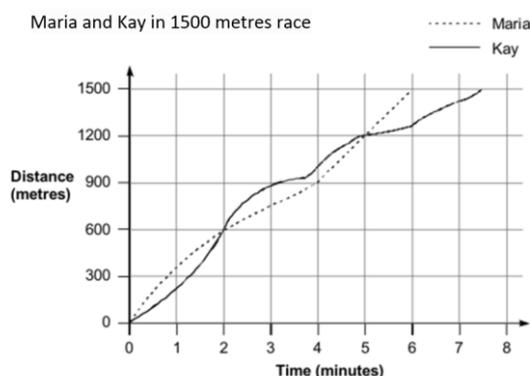
English



During the spring term in English, pupils will be improving their writing skills by producing a variety of different types of text such as play scripts, reports, stories and poetry. Each piece of work a child writes will form a chapter in their novel, "Snowbound". While expanding their knowledge of both fiction and non-fiction, this project is designed to encourage children to use their imagination in their writing. The "Snowbound" project will also involve elements of art and drama.

Maths

In maths, children will be building on the skills they acquired last term by developing their methods for the four operations (addition and subtraction and multiplication and division). Children will also be extending their understanding of shapes, measures and statistics (e.g. pie charts and line graphs). **Speed of recall in times tables and division facts remains a key skill** and will need frequent practice at home if your child is not already confident. An important topic this term will be calculating with fractions; the National Curriculum expects children to be able to add, subtract, multiply and divide using vulgar fractions!



Science

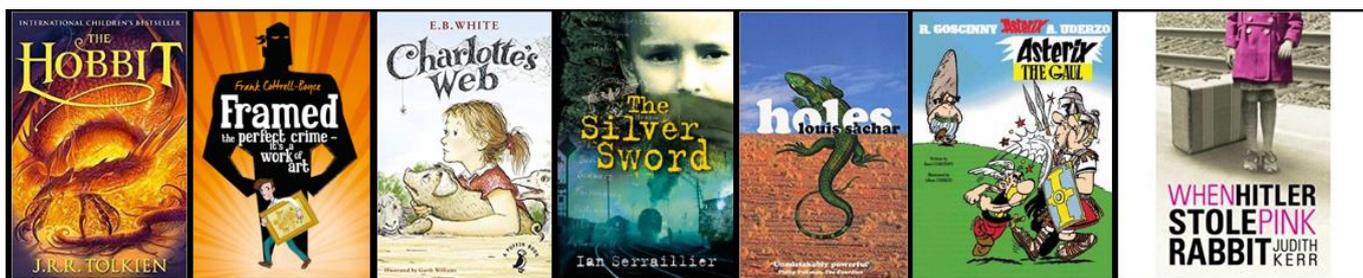
Our science topic this term covers separating materials (e.g. by filtering or sieving) and reversible and irreversible changes to materials. Any extra support at home is always beneficial.

Topics and Foundation Subjects

Children will be studying the physical environment in geography lessons. In RE this term, we shall be learning about the life and teachings of Jesus including the Easter story. Art will be linked with our "Snowbound" project. Design and Technology will also be linked; it will include designing and making board games.

Homework

Homework remains the same: it's handed out on Fridays and usually needs to be completed by the following Wednesday. Spelling sentences in the planners should be handed in on Fridays.



Reading is the most important element to homework. Did you receive last term's recommended books? Please ask for one if it didn't make it home.

Mathletics

Don't forget that these online resources can really help your child improve in maths. Your child's username and password in their planner.

<https://community.mathletics.com/signin#/student>

Grammar and Punctuation Support

Help with weekly tests can be found on the school website:

<http://stphilips-school.org/Grammar%20Pages/Grammar%20Page.htm>

Trips & Events

This term, children will be taking part in a whole day of **computing programming and robotics**. The Year 5 pupils will be going on their **skiing and tobogganing trip** in March while the Year 6 can look forward to their **Lifeskills** session in February. Details will follow.

Year 6 SATs

End of Key Stage 2 tests (SATs) will take place nationally during the week of **14th May**. There will be a parent meeting about the tests this term. Details will follow.

Owl Blog

Have you seen our blog page? Have a look for photos and updates:

<https://owlclassblogweb.wordpress.com/>

Many Thanks, Tom Richmond