

Tesla Class

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of a new term and I wish you all a happy new year.



Our topic for the first half of Spring term is Geography with a specific focus on mapping skills. During this topic we will be looking at the key features of maps including how to read and use maps of different scales and how contours work. We will use this knowledge to create maps of our own.

In **Science** we will be looking at one of the greatest developments within Victorian science: Electricity. We will explore all different kinds of electricity including bioluminescence, static electricity and series and parallel circuits which we will draw using appropriate symbols. Also we will learn about which materials make the best conductors and insulators.

After half term our science topic will change to focus on habitats and mini-beasts. We will be visiting RSPB Rye Meads Nature Reserve to explore the habitats and organisms found in and around ponds.

In **English** we begin with historical narratives set in the Victorian era linking to our whole class reading text. The key book we will be working on are **Street Child** by Berlie Doherty. After half-term we will concentrate on play scripts using Fabulous beasts by J.K. Rowling and non-fiction texts based around our science topic of Habitats. There will also be a strong focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar.



The children enjoy guided **reading** and we will continue to do this as a whole class. We make time for guided reading every day in class for at least 25 minutes. We will also continue to focus on written comprehension. Parents can help the development of comprehension skills enormously by reading and discussing what children have read with them on a regular basis.

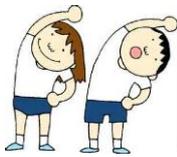
Reading is an important basic skill and children will continue to have a reading book from the school scheme which matches their National

Curriculum level and space to record daily in their **Home-school Communication book**.

Your support in listening to your child read and the comments you make in this book are much appreciated



We will continue to develop our **maths skills** throughout the term, building on what we have already learnt, such as, the four rules: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division; shape; fractions, decimals and measurement. A good knowledge of **times tables** is essential for a child to make good progress in maths. We will continue to use TT Rockstars to help. Children will receive weekly opportunities to develop their mathematical reasoning and problem solving skills.



Our PE days are **Tuesday** and **Wednesday**. Please make sure that PE kits are in school on these days. It is recommended that children bring in the PE kits and keep them at school or return them Monday morning. Children need to bring black shorts, a white or house colour short sleeved top and plimsolls. Please include jogging bottoms or a top (dark in colour) and trainers for outside lessons during the colder, wetter months. Please label all items of clothing so that we can return any misplaced items.

Homework

At the start of each half term the children will be given a grid containing a variety of homework choices. They are to choose and complete one each week; they don't have to do them all (unless they want to!). This will also include weekly spellings and opportunities to access TTRockstars and Spelling Shed from home. If you have any concerns about logins or passwords please speak to me. Thank you for your support in making sure your child completes their homework.

If you have any questions, feel free to speak to me after school or call in at the office to make an appointment if you need a little more time for discussion.

Miss Richter and the Tesla Class team.