

FRANCES OLIVE ANDERSON
Church of England (Aided) School
The Grove, Lea, Gainsborough DN21 5EP
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Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Woolley



'Being different, Belonging together'

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year!

We hope that you have had a great Christmas break and that you are all well rested and ready for another busy half term. We are writing to provide you with an overview of the topics for this term and to give you a few other pieces of information, which you may find useful.

Curriculum Overview

- **Science:** Light up your world- The children develop a detailed understanding of mirrors and the reflections that they form, and apply this understanding to make a periscope. They are introduced to ray diagrams that can be used to represent the behaviour of light.
- **Topic (Geography/History/ICT/Art/Design Technology):** Stargazers looking at space and the solar system. .
- **RE:** Symbolism in Worship

This term we are continuing to have Coach Alex delivering his expertise in PE on a Thursday. Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school for the full week, in case of any timetable changes.

Homework

This year is going to be very busy for the children, regular maths, spelling and topic-based homework will be set. Please keep up to date with the children's homework diaries.

The attached sheet gives the children a number of different options for their topic homework this term. Topic homework will be set fortnightly and the children can choose which/how many tasks they would like to do.

Reading

Reading at home is essential and comments in the reading diary relating to this are very useful. During Upper Key Stage 2 children go through a critical transformation as readers. During KS1 & Lower KS2 children are taught to decode, recognise key sight words, comprehend simple texts, and read with some degree of fluency. During Years 5 & 6 it is still important for children to read every day, they must consolidate and extend their basic skills, become fluent, confident readers, build a vocabulary of words and concepts, and most importantly be able to comprehend increasingly sophisticated texts. It is a transition from "learning to read" to "reading to learn".

Times Tables

It is also important that the children become secure in their times table knowledge up to their 12 times table. Each child has been given a username and password for Times Table Rockstars www.trockstars.com and for Mathletics www.mathletics.co.uk. Regular practise in both reading and times tables at home is crucial.



The Villages Schools' Partnership
Achieving Excellence Together



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Water Bottles

Please ensure that your children come to school with a bottle, filled with **water** only. As they often spend long periods of time focussing in lessons, it is vital that they remain hydrated.

Labelling

Please ensure that all belongings are clearly labelled with your child's full name on them, so that they can be easily returned.

Twitter

Please follow our class on twitter we will use this in an effort to keep you more informed about what we are doing and share some of the fantastic things that happen in school,
We will use the account for:

- Links to websites, apps and videos that you can use to support learning.
- Commentary about what is happening within the classroom each day.
- Informing you of events that are taking place.
- Videos and photos of learning as it is taking place in the classroom (your child will not be photographed if you have asked us not to).

In line with the schools safeguarding guidelines and to ensure that this facility is run safely, we have put in place security settings, so that we can only be followed by people we approve- this will not be available to the general public, only people we know have a link to the school. It is also requested that this should be for use by adults only, not for pupils to post comments.

If you would like to follow us on Twitter, our user names are @Year56CLea (Mr Cook) and @Year56WLea (Miss Wallwork). You will need to set up a Twitter account if you do not already have one. So that we know who you are, please complete the form, which is available from the school office. In the interests of Internet safety I know many if you will have a username that is not the same as your actual name so it may be difficult to identify you so please give your known name. We will then accept your request and you will be able to follow what is happening within our school. We will not accept any requests to follow us unless the form is completed and returned to school.

We value the role that parents/carers play in education and hope that by working in partnership with you, we will be able to fully support your child's learning and help them to achieve their full potential. Should you have and queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards,

Miss F Wallwork & Mr S Cook



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