



Chillerton and Rookley Primary School and Early Learners
Main Road, Chillerton, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 3EP



Friday 1st March 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we begin the second half of the Spring term I would like to take this opportunity to say a big 'well done' to all our children for their hard work and their parents, for their continued support! An opportunity to look in the children's books and briefly discuss how the children are doing at this point in the year presents itself next week. Parents seeking longer appointments will need to make separate arrangements as the 10 minute appointments will be tight.

This half term our Literacy lessons will be driven by an amazing text by Jonathon Emmett called 'The Clockwork Dragon. Year 3s will also have extracts from 'How to Train Your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell to study and some will read the book as part of their Guided Reading sessions. Attached to this letter is a class timetable and a Topic Web for this half term.

I am also planning to take the children on a school trip the middle of this half term as well as towards the beginning of next term. Further information will follow so please do check the children's book bags over the coming weeks.

I thought that it may be helpful to give you some ideas and suggestions of things that could support your child.

- We all know how important it is that children regularly read aloud to you but it is also important that they hear you modelling reading to them. Make it fun. Use silly voices and immerse them in the story as much as possible.
- Holidays and weekends are an ideal opportunity for extended reading, allow them to choose some books from home or one of the I.O.W. Council's libraries. Children need to engage in reading and therefore experience a wide variety of genres, such as fiction, poems, myths/legends, non-fiction, animal facts books, comics and cartoon strips, reference books, 'First News' (a children's weekly newspaper) etc.
- Questioning for understanding is vital to ensure your child can not only read the words but also contextualise them.
- Practising number bonds (to 10/20/100), as well as times tables will keep them on their toes!

Year 2s 2x, 5x, 10x & skip counting in 3s

Year 3s As for Year 2 plus 3x, 4x, 8x, 9x ... speedy recall is the aim, multiplication & division.

Practise mental recall and question them when they least expect it! Use a pack of playing cards to practise. Add and subtract the digits on number plates when driving. Above all make it fun! ☐

With home reading, please encourage your child to experience as wide a variety of books as possible and write these in their reading records for us to see what types of books they are reading. The school reading scheme (the different coloured books that go home every night) are designed to be within their capabilities; to encourage enjoyment and confidence with reading, rather than for decoding new words. (This is something that we do in class whilst we are studying more challenging books). Meanwhile your child may also have a book they like to read at home. Do record these books as well in the journals, indicating whether it was a read alone book or a shared experience.

For every shared reading session at home, reading and discussing the content, your child will receive a reading point. The children can earn certificates for 25, 50 or 100 reading points. Points can be banked so that on finally receiving 100 points they get to choose a book to keep from a range of books we have here in school. However, if they choose to have a dip in a goodies box after earning 25 points they return to 0 and begin again.

It is therefore very important to record each and every shared reading session with your child

We hope that the suggestions above are of use to you and your child(ren). We would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support from home. It really does make a difference in their learning.

Finally, I would like to welcome Amie-Marie Hills and her family to the school. Amie-Marie is joining our Year 3s and started this week.

Year 2 SATs will be in May. I shall be preparing a pack of sample SATs papers for parents of children in Year 2. A separate letter will be attached to the pack explaining how we approach the SATs for our children in order that they can be as stress free as possible.

In anticipation of your continued support I thank you all

Yours Sincerely,
Thelma Cutter
Class 2 Teacher ... Years 2 & 3