

Dear Parents and Children,

I hope you have all had a restful half term and had some amazing adventures with your families. As we approach Christmas, it is important that your children are continuing to focus on their learning and practise their new skills in Year 2.

<u>Reading</u>

Reading books will continue to be changed on **Mondays**. This is different from their Year 1 book change day so please ensure their bookbags are prepared with their Reading Records signed and books are in their bags. Children should bring their book bag to school with them **every day** (with their books and their reading log inside it), as we complete reading activities with the children throughout the week to help their skills progress.

Please make sure you are writing a comment about their reading and comprehension every week for each book. It is important that your child practises their comprehension skills with you, as reading is now less about their phonics. Their practise is still essential in Year 2 and they will still need your support when reading. In Year 2, the children receive 2 books weekly. One will be an Oxford Reading Tree book which the children will read to you, and the other will be a library book that you can read to them to encourage a love of reading. It is important to check for understanding by asking them questions about what they think about the story and what has happened. As the children have learned their phonics, we will be expanding their vocabulary through reading.

Free Reader

Free Readers are children who have completed the Oxford Reading Tree scheme. If your child is a free reader, can you please let us know what part your child has finished their chapter book by writing a comment in their reading log and including the page numbers. We do not expect your child to finish their chapter book in a week, these books are longer than the Oxford Reading Tree Scheme books so will take longer to read. It is not expected that they sit and read the whole book to you, but it is useful if you listen to them read a couple of chapters and then discuss what happened with them.

<u>Homework</u>

English and Maths homework will be handed out every Friday and will be collected back in on **Tuesday**. Please ensure your child hands in their homework on time as we complete a spelling test in their books weekly. It may be helpful to try and finish homework by Monday so that it avoids confusion with the Book change on Monday and nothing gets left at school.

School Items

Please remember that your child needs a named water bottle every day as they can then have a drink whenever needed. Please also ensure that their jumpers and PE kits are labelled in case they get mixed up throughout the school day.

Good roots run deep.

PE

PE will be on **Tuesday and Thursday.** Children need to have black shorts, a white t-shirt, plimsolls as well as a track suit (preferably a neutral coloured one) in their PE kits. Children are allowed to wear trainers when we have our PE lessons outside. The children should have their P.E kits in every day in case of timetable changes.

Our school policy states that we are unable to allow children wearing earrings to participate in PE lessons for safety reasons. Please remove your child's earrings before they come to school as teachers are unable to do so for them.

Dates for your Diary

November 5th-6th: Parents Evening November 7th: Flu Vaccines November 28th: Book Fair December 6th : National Portrait Gallery Trip December 12th: Christmas Jumper Day December 17th: KS1 Christmas Party December 20th: Last day of term with early closure at 1:30pm

Collecting your child

If your child is going to be collected by someone else (a friend, relative or another child's parent) that is not already on our school system, it is necessary the school knows about this beforehand by contacting the school office – 020 8560 3297. By doing this, I will be able to dismiss your child quickly without having to contact you to confirm.

If you do need to speak to us at any time, please write a note in your child's reading record or make an appointment through the office. We are also available at the end of the day for straightforward queries. You can email the school office on <u>office@stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk</u>

Thank you for your continued efforts in seeing your child progress!

Sincerely,

Miss Leanage Year 2 Teacher

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