



Lyminster Primary School

Find Your Roar!

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February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Spring 2, 2024. Our topic is The Wonderful World of Chocolate

This half term, Year 3 will be reading a range of texts by Roald Dahl, discussing his style of writing and trying to re-create their own version.

Another key focus of this half term will be Maya Civilization. This links to 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl, as we will be looking at the Mayan's discovery and development of chocolate.

Dates for the Diary

- **Monday 19th February** - Spring term begins
- **Wednesday 21st February** – Mid Year Celebration of Learning
- **Monday 4th March** – Mayans Day (further information will be sent out)
- **Thursday 7th March** – World Book Day. The annual event- bring a book to share and dress up as a book character if your child wants to. The whole day's lessons will be focused on this event. More information to come
- **Friday 22nd March** – Reports Out
- **Thursday 28th March** – Easter Breakfast
- **Friday 29th March** – last day of term
- **Monday 15th April** – Start of Summer term

Reminder: Full P.E. kit needs to be in school every **Tuesday and Thursday**. All jewellery needs to be removed on PE days and long hair tied back. **If your child cannot remove their earrings then you need to provide ear tape.** As it is still cold, I advise that children wear jogging bottoms or shorts and tights during our outdoor PE session.

Time Table Practice

Times tables practise at home is crucial. Your child must be accessing Times Table Rockstars and practising their mental magicians every day. We continue to do our weekly mental magician test every **Thursday** and are now also doing additional daily tests based on our class times table. This half term is the **8x table**.

Reading at Home

Reading is a vital part the children's education and it is expected that they read every day, whether that is to an adult or by themselves. Reading certificates will be awarded in celebration assemblies for the number of times the children have read and to monitor this the children or adults will need to record this in their reading record, numbering each entry: **50 entries – bronze reading award**, **100 entries – silver reading award**, **200 entries – gold reading award**. Reading records will need to be in the children's book bags every day for adults in school to record one to one reading.





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Our reading focus this half term is **comprehension**, listening to and discussing a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays and non-fiction. The children will be discussing what the text tells them (retrieval) and always summarising from what is implied by the language used. The key focus will be the children understanding what they are reading and verbalising this. The children will be reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes.

It would be brilliant if you could support your children with this skill at home and I have listed some questions you can use below.

Key questions for comprehension:

- What has happened in the last few paragraphs? Why do you think that has happened?
- How does the character feel towards...?
- Why did that character move / talk / act in that way?
- Tell me about this character / setting, what are they like? How do you know?

Homework

Spellings and Mental Maths (including times tables)

Spellings and mental maths activities need to be complete every day at home. **Books will be checked each week on Thursday** and dragon points will be awarded to those who complete this. Children will be tested every **Thursday** and new homework will be given out on **Friday**. If the children do not get all of their mental maths questions right, then they will remain on that same skill until they do so. Homework will be differentiated to meet the needs of each child.

- Spellings – children will practise their spellings every night using the **look, say, cover, write, check** technique.
- Mental Magicians (including times tables) – please log on to Times Tables Rockstars regularly at home and practice your timestables.
- Maths Homework Book – Children will be given 3 pages per week. The first two are to be completed by all, the final page is a challenge. **The pages are written on the board all week for anyone who forgets.**

Homework club is every Monday lunchtime for anyone who needs extra help with the weekly homework.

And finally, please remember that your role in your child's education is crucial. If you would like more information, or would like to become more involved in school (e.g. as a reader or as a helper on a school trip), or if you have any artefacts or resources to offer the school, it is always greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Miss E Johnston
Year 3 Teacher

