



Welcome to Spring! Class 3

Term 2b - Spring

by Mr. Weeks

Welcome to the second half of Spring term – lighter nights and a hint of sunshine in the air! Year 3 and 4 are back together in the same class for maths and English after a very successful previous half term which included smaller group support.

Important Messages

Spennymoor Leisure Centre has firmly asked us to ensure **all** pupils have their own swimming cap. This is due to health and safety, hygiene and insurance purposes. Any pupils not wearing a swimming cap will not be allowed to participate.

A weekly spelling list will come with the homework every Friday. Pupils will practise these in their writing in the following week and I will set a spelling test on these words between Wednesday and Friday.

Show and tell on a Friday has been hugely popular with pupils. Can I thank you for allowing them to share these wonderful things with the group. However, moving forward, we will do show and tell on the final day of the half term instead of weekly. This will reduce the risk of any possessions being damaged or misplaced.

Maths

Times Tables Rockstars Maths has been hugely popular with all students. This is helping pupils to access 1-12 times tables in a fun and progressive way. Log in via www.ttrockstars.com on any tablet, PC,

phone or laptop using the organisation 'Byers Green'. The username for Joe Bloggs for example would be j.bloggs. Each pupil should have their own unique password which I can reset at any point should you have any issues getting on.

The medium-term plan for this half term includes negative numbers, Roman Numerals, decimals, area, perimeter and converting measurements. Throughout the half term we will also be continuing our times table practice and mental maths skills. Please continue to support by quizzing your children on the times tables 1-12 as there is an expectation that they will know them by the end of year 4.

English

Our new fiction novel is *The Spiderwick Chronicles* by Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black. We will be using this medium to develop questioning skills and drawing inference from the text using evidence. Pupils will be writing in depth through stories and letter writing whilst applying grammar knowledge from the previous half term. Please can I ask for your support with any English homework to remind children about capital letters, full-stops and other common punctuation. It is not uncommon for pupils to occasionally forget, but this will be an expectation in class 4.

Can I remind you that every pupil has their own log in to access a huge range of e-books which are interactive and tailored to their level. This can be accessed on www.activelearnprimary.co.uk followed by their username (thomasg) and their password (thomas). The school code is cmp3. If you have any issues logging in or accessing the books, please let me know. **If pupils are struggling to read at home, this may be an**

alternative to engage them – it can be accessed via PC, laptop or tablet.

Science

This half term, we will be focusing on rocks and soils and applying this to real-world contexts with Miss Jewett.

PE

Swimming will continue to run until May. Can I thank you for your continued support for ensuring pupil absence is reduced to a minimum. There has been a significant, positive difference this half term.

Art/DT

Pupils are going to explore Egyptian hieroglyphics with a textile element. They will also be investigating famous buildings.

ICT

The Hopscotch programming software has been a huge success and pupils have created some amazing games. Pupils can access their games on the cloud at home via their log in (please see me if you need further details). We will be looking at a number of problem solving games including Star Wars and Minecraft this half term.

RE

Miss Jewett will be continuing to teach RE about Christian belief, perceptions about Jesus and moving towards discussions about Lent.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kind Regards,

Mr M Weeks