

Dorado and Columba Class

We hope the children have an enjoyable half term break and will return to school full of enthusiasm for our new topics in the next half term. We will be available at the classroom door at the beginning and end of the school day if you need to speak to us or have any concerns. If you have any queries at any point during the year please do not hesitate to contact us or make an appointment to meet Miss Bailey or Mrs Tranter.

Homework

We have been very impressed with the level of creativity and dedication to the homework grid over the last term. English and Maths will be set every Monday and it is to be returned by the following Monday. Homework grids for this half term will be stuck in the homework books and the children are able to choose from a range of activities from the grids.

Spellings will be set on Monday each week and will be tested on Friday. We will include a spelling sheet with homework which will have their spelling words along with ideas for how to practise learning them. Reading continues to be a big focus for the school. The requirement is that the children read every day. Their reading records and reading books need to be in school every day and will be checked regularly.

Timings for completing homework area as follows:

Daily	Reading	10 minutes
Daily	Spelling	10 minutes
Weekly	English	20-30 minutes
Weekly	Maths	20-30 minutes

If your child has any problems with any part of their homework, they have been told to come to discuss the task with us before Thursday. If the homework is not completed to a good standard then it may need to be repeated. Please feel free to write comments in your child's book as to how you feel they coped with the tasks.

Helping at home:

- Check homework books and support your child in completing their homework.
- Regularly read with your child and discuss what they have read; completing the reading log.
- Test your child on their spellings and play word games using their spelling words.
- Practise counting forwards and backwards in different steps from any number.
- Practise telling the time.
- Give opportunities to use money, including calculating change.
- Practise times table facts and related division facts (up to 12 x 12).

PE

Children must have their correct PE kit in school at all times. To avoid unnecessary disruption to the curriculum please ensure that your child brings their PE kit to school on Monday and that it is taken home to be washed on Friday. Children will need both indoor kit (blue shorts and a white T shirt) and outdoor kit (warm jogging bottoms, a warm sweatshirt and sensible, supportive training shoes) at all times throughout the term as outdoor games will take place each week. Children will only be excused from PE on medical grounds if we receive a letter from the parent/carer. Please note that earrings must be removed for PE.

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

Monday 28 th October	Term starts
Monday 18 th November	Parents Reading Evening (5pm-6pm)
Tuesday 10 th December	Year 3/4 Christmas Carol concert (2pm-3pm)
Wednesday 11 th December	Year 3/4 Christmas Carol concert (10am-11am)
Thursday 12 th December	Year 3/4 Christmas Carol concert (6pm – 7pm)
Tuesday 17 th December	Christmas lunch and festive fun afternoon
Wednesday 18 th December	Last day of term
Monday 6 th January	Term starts (children return to school)



MATHS

We will be continuing to work on Addition and Subtraction using expanded and contracted methods to cross boundaries.

MULTIPLICATION AND DIVISION

We will be applying our knowledge of times table facts to solve real life multiplication and division problems, including those with remainders.

ENGLISH

JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH

We will be exploring the characters and settings in James and the Giant Peach to create our own version.

BIOGRAPHY

We will be exploring the life of Roald Dahl and carrying out our own research in order to create a biography of his life.

SCIENCE

We will be investigating the changes we observe in our rapidly changing world. We will investigate the effects the seasons have on the world around us and explore the importance and roles of flowers and plants.

COMPUTING

Branching Databases

We will be using Purple Mash to create a branching database that will enable us to classify a group of objects.

MUSIC

This half term we will learn how to use and understand the staff and other musical notation. In our recorder lessons we will be playing the recorder with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.

Roald Dahl

James and the Giant Peach

PSHE

We will be exploring our emotions, and working on the important topic of anti-bullying.

ART

SELF PORTRAITS

We will be producing self-portraits, in the style of Quentin Blake, using a variety of media including pastels.

P.E.

Ball Games

Children will be developing their ball skills, and joining in team games.

Gymnastics

Children will be producing sequences of moves, creating patterns and pathways.

R.E.

CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

We will look at how and why churches are different to other places of worship.

OUR EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURS

We will be locating Europe on a world map, learning about the major capital cities and some geographical features.

SPANISH

COLOURS, ANIMALS AND PETS

We will be learning the colours and the names of different animals – both wild and pets.