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Date: 4th November 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term! I hope you have all had a lovely half term break.

Please find attached the planning overview for this half term by subject. Our Topic this half term is 'Winter Wonderland' and we are looking forward to finding out about Shackleton's expeditions into Antarctica in our Humanities studies. In Literacy, we will be exploring the texts 'Storm Whale in Winter', 'Stick Man' and 'Mog's Christmas'.

Homework will continue to consist of a maths sheet each week, sent home and collected on Fridays. It is expected that you are also reading at home regularly with your child – the reading books are changed regularly and will continue to consist of one 'Read, Write Inc.' Phonics book plus a 'Book bag Book' (that matches the sound featured in the Phonics book) as well as a library book. Regular use of 'Nessy' at home, for 10 minutes each time, will also help to improve reading. Please let me know if you have not been able to access Nessy at home – I am more than happy to go through the login process individually if needed. It is a great programme that is tailored to each child's reading ability and progresses at their own rate.

In School, we use a Maths Scheme called 'White Rose Maths' which encourages the children to think critically to solve problems. There is a White Rose app that I would like the children to use at home called 'One Minute Maths' – they can use it to practice a wide range of maths skills, improving their speed and fluency. This half term, we are focussing on 'Addition and Subtraction' so this would be a great topic to select on the app at home. Can you please download the app onto a smartphone or ipad at home and let me know how you get on with it? I will show the children how to use it in class as well.

If you have any questions or worries, however small, please do come and find me in School at any time, I will be in school every day except on a Tuesday. Thank you for your continued support as always!

Kind regards,

Karen Blythe



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