



NEW STREET, BRETFORTON
EVESHAM
WORCESTERSHIRE
WR11 7JS

Telephone: 01386 830418
Email: office@bretforton.worcs.sch.uk

'Learning at its heart'

26th February 2019

Dear Parents/ Carers of Oak class children,

A warm welcome back to the 2nd half of the Spring Term here at Bretforton Village School; as we head further into the spring, we look forward to all the fantastic opportunities ahead of us. I would like to say a big thank you to all the children who worked so hard last half-term and the effort shown in the work they produced. We continue to have a big focus on attendance and the importance of making every minute of classroom time count. Our new topic for this term is Rainforests and Habitats. We will also be learning about people who have devoted their lives to helping wildlife and preserving these habitats. There are lots of exciting activities planned that will keep us very busy!

Our School Week

Miss Ellis and Mrs Glass will be continuing to take the class for Forest School sessions, but these will now be on Thursday afternoons. We are extremely lucky to have brass instrument teaching on Monday afternoons which the children will undertake in small groups, starting on Monday 4th March. Mrs Townsin will be supporting the children on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and Thursday and Friday afternoons. On Tuesday afternoons, Miss Kay will be leading PE lessons. Please can we ask that children continue to have full PE kit in school, including appropriate footwear and blue/ black jogging bottoms. Swimming will start again in the first week and will run to Friday 29th March. Sessions will then resume in the summer term. We also have cricket sessions for the next two Wednesdays. Each morning, teachers will be settling their children in class from 8.40am so if you need to speak to one of us, please come in before that time or speak to Mrs Eckersley in the school office to pass on any messages. We are usually available after school for a chat if you need us. Can we also take this chance to remind all parents that any medication should be given to the school office and a medical form completed (this includes inhalers, and cough sweets). We continue to make presentation of work a key focus and the children having pride in the work they produce.

Homework

A piece of homework linked to our topic, English or Maths work will be sent home on a Friday, to be returned to school by the following Wednesday. Sometimes, children will be given two shorter pieces of homework rather than one longer piece. Please listen to your child read as much as possible, preferably daily, and please encourage your child to practise their spellings daily in preparation for their tests on a Friday morning.

Spellings

Spelling lists are sent home at the start of each half term. A copy of your child's spelling list will be attached to the back cover of their reading record. Following their spellings tests on a Friday (unless otherwise indicated in the 'test date' column on the spelling list sheet), children will highlight any incorrect spellings on their copy, so that you are aware of which spellings your child still needs to practise. The children have spellings lists in their English books and are encouraged to correctly use their spelling words in any piece of writing. They will then cross off any words that they have used and if used correctly and spelt correctly they will achieve a house point.

Multiplication Tables

The children complete their 'times tables' challenge every day, where they try and beat the 5-minute timer to complete as many multiplication tables as they can. They have enjoyed doing this and always rise to the challenge, but they need to remember my times tables catchphrase – 'it's about accuracy, not quantity'!

Best wishes Mr Skelton, Mrs Townsin and Mrs Glass





'Learning at its heart'

Writing We will be using our key text 'Running Wild' by Michael Morpurgo to develop our creative writing skills. We continue to focus on correct punctuation and how we can apply our spellings in our writing.	Maths We will be learning about rounding and estimation, formal calculations for multiplication and division and converting measurements e.g. cm to m, minutes to hours.	Reading We will be looking closely on non-fiction texts to research habitats around the world and how they differ. We continue to develop independent reading comprehension strategies.
Art and DT We will be learning about the artist Georgia O'Keefe and how she uses art to reflect the natural world. We will be using paints, chalk, pastel and other media to create different effects and creating a large whole class mural.		Religious Education We will be looking at other faiths from around the world and why religious festivals are important.
PE We will be working on tennis skills with Miss Kay. For the first two weeks, we will be learning more skills with the WCC cricket coach. We will attend swimming sessions every week on a Friday until 29 th March.	Rainforests and Habitats	Music We will be looking at the music of tribal communities and how this is used. We will also be looking at how to make instruments using materials from the forest.
Science We be learning about living things and their habitats, focusing on life cycles and life processes. We will be looking at work of David Attenborough and Jane Goodall and the impact they have had on the natural world.		History We will be investigating the Mayan Civilization and how they used their habitats to survive. Geography We will be learning about Rainforests around the world and how humans are having an impact on them. We will also be learning about other habitats.