



Larch Newsletter Spring term

Dear parents/carers

Welcome back to school. I hope that you have all had a relaxing break and that children are rested and ready for the New Year and new term. I have loved my first term at Wixams Tree Primary and would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the lovely Christmas gifts.

Diary dates

Monday 10th February and Wednesday 12th February – Parent Consultations

Tuesday 11th February – Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 5th March – World Book Day

Friday 13th March – Sports Relief

Tuesday 26th March – Child Net workshop and parent workshop

Theme

This term we will be looking at Bedford as a local history study for our theme. We will be carrying out lots of different activities across the term linked to our topic. Please see the topic overview for more information on what we will be learning this half term. If you have any photos of Bedford or the local area and are happy for us to put these on display for the term, please send these in. It would be good to have some old and new photos to display and discuss. We will be looking at John Bunyan and 'A Pilgrim's Progress' as part of our theme so pictures of any sites linked to his time in Bedford would be particularly valuable.

Homework

Please continue to listen to children read when possible and acknowledge any reading in their reading records. Children can record their own reading in their records too and should continue to colour in their reward chart. Please encourage children to read a range of different text types and discuss texts with the children whenever possible (e.g. ask them about their book/the characters/predictions etc.). Children will continue to receive maths and English homework weekly. Spellings will also be set and tested weekly. Children should also continue to use Times Tables Rockstars.

Timetable	School	Home
Monday	Outdoor PE (Spring 1)	Daily reading* & spelling practice
Tuesday	Outdoor PE (Spring 2)	Daily reading* & spelling practice
Wednesday	Homework and Spellings due and set	Daily reading* & spelling practice
Thursday	Indoor PE (Spring 1) Outdoor PE (Spring 2)	Daily reading* & spelling practice
Friday	Times Tables and Arithmetic Tests	Daily reading* & spelling practice

* Please ensure that your child's reading book/reading record is in school every day. We will do our best to provide the children with a daily opportunity to change finished books. We aim to read with the children at school at least twice weekly, in addition to guided reading sessions.

PE kit

Whilst PE is currently timetabled for Monday and Thursday (Spring 1) and Tuesday and Thursday (Spring 2), this may occasionally change due to the weather, other events etc., so please ensure that your child's PE kit is in school every day. Please make sure that they have the correct clothing and footwear for indoor and outdoor activities i.e. Wixams Tree green t-shirt, black shorts and jogging bottoms, red jumper, trainers/pumps. Pupils with earrings need their own tape to cover their earrings if they cannot be removed. All long hair should be tied back for PE, so a spare hairband might be useful, as would a spare pair of socks for when girls come to school wearing tights.

School uniform

Please ensure that all items of school uniform (including PE kit and shoes) are named. Children may change into trainers at lunch time but it is their responsibility to make sure that they change back into their school shoes afterwards.

Book bags/Rucksacks

Please remember to check your child's bag on a daily basis for letters, bump notes and homework activities. The children are responsible for handing in any homework that is due or forms that need to be returned. I have tried to make this easier by setting homework and spellings on the same day. Children may return their homework and spelling books before Wednesday, if they wish. Please make sure that if spelling books are returned to school, that you have a copy to practise at home. Spellings for the half term are already on Spelling Shed.

Snack and water bottles

Please ensure that your child has a named water bottle in school every day. Children in KS2 do not receive a fruit/veg snack at break time, but may bring one from home. If your child does bring a snack for break, please ensure that it is fruit or veg only. If you wish to order milk then please speak to the school office. Children who are registered for milk will be able to access this at break. Snacks, packed lunches and birthday treats must all be free from nuts.

Home time

Please make sure that the school is informed if you wish to give permission for your child to regularly go home with another parent. If you would like your child to walk home alone or with another child, please let the school office know. If you gave permission last year/term, then your children are fine to continue walking home. Please remind children that if they are meeting you at the gate, if an adult is not there, then they should return to the class teacher. The office must be informed about any last minute changes to home time collection plans, so that this information can be passed to the teacher before the end of the day.

Parent wishes

If you have any concerns please speak to me on the door in the morning or after school. Please don't feel that you need to wait until the parent consultations to check up on your child's progress or to raise any concerns.

Best wishes
Miss Bygraves