

# Panthers' Spring Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!

We hope that you all had a fantastic Christmas break! A big THANK YOU for all of your thoughtful presents, it really is very kind of you all and very much appreciated.

We are looking forward to starting the New Year with the Panthers. We have lots of lovely things planned and as always will keep you informed of current learning and any upcoming events.

If there is anything you would like to discuss, please pop in at the end of the day or make an appointment for anything more substantial.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Riley, Mrs Harris and Mrs Norden

## P.E

Panthers P.E sessions will take place on a Wednesday and Friday this term. Please send your child in with correct P.E kit for these days, they no longer need to come to school in their P.E kit.

Can you please make sure your child has the following items in their PE bags:

- White T-Shirt
- Black Shorts
- Tracksuit bottoms
- Tracksuit top
- Trainers

Please remember that no jewellery is to be worn in P.E.

## Homework

This term the Panthers homework focus will be Maths and English. We feel the reason for homework is to consolidate learning from the classroom and ultimately build your child's confidence with specific areas. Due to children learning at different speeds and in different ways, the homework will be responsive to your child's needs and therefore there will not be a set homework day or a set homework task so please don't worry if your child has something different to another child in the class.

Saying this, there are skills we will cover this term that you could support your child with.

### In maths we will cover:

- Telling the time
- 2, 5, 10 and 3 times tables
- Money and giving change

### In English the priorities are:

- Full stops and capital letters correctly used
- Spelling common exception words and applying these within writing
  - Varying sentence openers

### Spellings

This half term's spellings will take place on a Thursday afternoon. Spelling new tricky words is a challenge, therefore it is important that children are practicing these regularly within the week to embed them, rather than learning them for the test only.

### Times Tables Rock Stars

Now that the Panthers have their own logins, they are free to practice their times tables and begin climbing that leader board. The questions your child will get asked will focus on the 2s first, incorporating both multiplication and division questions. This will then be added to as the children have had time to familiarise themselves with the program and gain confidence.

### Reading comprehension

The Panthers are such strong readers! Now is the time to really focus on asking lots of questions around the text. If you would like a copy of possible questions to ask, please let me know, this can be arranged. Thank you for your continued support with your child's reading, it is really paying off!

## What are the Panthers learning this term?

### English

This term we are focusing on nonsense poetry, a journey story and information texts. The focus being speech marks, adverbs for information, commas to separate items in a list, relative clauses (who and which) and a list of three adjectives for description.

### Numeracy

One of the first units of maths this term is time. The children will be taught o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to. We will also be exploring different calculation methods.

### Science

At the beginning and the end of the first half term we will be focusing on Science in the afternoons for these weeks. This is so the children have more time to investigate, the content is fully embedded and a greater depth of learning is achieved. The area of investigation is physics and in particular light and sound.

### Topic

#### A Local study

During the second part of this term, the children will be exploring where we live in greater depth. We will look at the village, nearest town and city as well as the types of buildings, old and new and the local demographic. The Panthers will also be in charge of a new housing development in between Kedington and Haverhill, exploring ways in which this can happen, what the impact on the local area will be and any concerns the local people may have about their countryside and wildlife that may be at risk.