

# Panthers' Class

## Summer Newsletter

Welcome back! We hope you had an enjoyable Easter break and your child is looking forward to studying our exciting topics this term. We enjoyed coming back together as a team for three weeks at the end of last term and we are continuing to work hard to re-establish our class rules and routines. We celebrated our achievement of gaining 2000 Dojos collectively with a Forest School session on the last day of term. As we write, we have 2215 Dojos. Keep up your hard work Team Panthers!

### Our Topics

This half term in English our writing units are:

- character descriptions
- non-chronological reports
- recounts from personal experiences
- poems developing vocabulary
- humorous poetry

In our reading sessions we will be working on practising our reading and comprehension skills using the following books: Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World (Non-fiction), Aesop's Fables and Fantastic Mr Fox.

Our maths units are:

- rounding and adjusting to add and subtract
- multiplication and division
- using the 'exchange' strategy for column addition and subtraction
- 2D and 3D shapes

In history we will study significant local people, the history of Haverhill and significant local events.

In science this half term we will be learning about plants and bulbs. After half term we will study animals, including humans.

In geography we will be learning about where we live; focussing on map work, compass directions, fieldwork skills, human and physical features.

In computing we will study three units: programming using Scratch; the International Space Station using data and interpretation skills and online safety.

After the half term break we will be learning about healthy eating in design technology.

As well as our units of study we will continue to enjoy our daily phonics sessions, 'Smiling Minds' (meditation sessions), daily mile (three times a week), TTRS timed sessions (four times a week) and will endeavour to listen to your child read regularly in school when possible. We will record assessments in our own class reading file.

Mrs Brown and Mrs Cannon continue to be our Teaching Assistants. They will be supporting the children in class and delivering interventions.

### Physical Education

On Tuesdays and Thursdays the children will continue their PE lessons with specialist PE coaches from Dellar Sports. We request that your child continues to arrive in their PE kit. A full PE kit includes; black shorts, a white t-shirt, plimsolls/trainers, and for colder days, a tracksuit. Please remember that jewellery (including earrings) must NOT be worn for P.E, and that your child must be able to remove items independently if worn to school that day. Unfortunately, we cannot help your child or cover their earrings with tape. Please can long hair be securely tied back too.



### Homework

Now your child is approaching the end of their Key Stage 1 journey we expect them to:

- **read** at least 4 times a week (for at least **15 minutes**)
- **practise** their **spellings** 3 times a week
- play **Times Tables Rock Stars** 3 times a week
- **read** and understand their **subject knowledge organisers** regularly.

We will be using Showbie as our homework platform this term. The chart for you to record their achievements is in the 'Homework task grid' assignment. We will check this regularly. Weekly spellings will be uploaded to the 'spellings' assignment. Both Spots' and Stripes' spellings will be listed in one document. Your child may practise both lists, if they are confident and can correctly spell their own set. Your child will know which group they are in, please ask if unsure. We will test spellings on Fridays and we expect your child to share their result with you. There is also a 'knowledge organiser' assignment on Showbie.

**Please remember to record your child's reading progress in their log.** Please encourage your child to re-read their books; focussing on previously mis-pronounced words, trying to read aloud with more expression or to talk more about what happened and retrieve information. **Books can be changed on Mondays.**

All children/parents have received a private Dojo message from Mrs Cannon with login details for Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) a letter has also been sent home. This application will help your child learn their times tables and become confident in our daily class sessions; where your child has 3 minutes to answer 30 questions.

To help keep your child hydrated throughout the busy day we strongly advise that they bring **TWO** freshly filled (and named) **water bottles** to school every day. Unfortunately we are still unable to refill the bottles using our water dispensers.

We are excited to be teaching the units planned this term and supporting your child to make progress in the last term of their Key Stage 1 journey. We look forward to working in partnership with you again this term. Mrs Dodman and Mrs Murray