



# Parkstone Primary School

Spring Term 2017

Year 5 - Mrs Robinson and Mrs Openshaw

Year 6 - Miss Dormand, Mrs Wigglesworth and Mrs Gladwin



Happy New Year! Welcome back after the Christmas holiday. We hope you had a lovely break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the new term. This letter outlines some of the topics we will be studying this term as well as other key information.

Our topic this half term is The Mysterious Mayans. We will be looking at where the Mayans lived and their lifestyle. Our Science topic this half term is Living Things and their Habitats.

## Homework

We ask that children read three times a week at home (at least 10/15 minutes). Please sign your child's reading record to show they have achieved this so they can enjoy a golden playtime on Friday. If your child reads three times a week every week, they will also receive a special 'Reading Champion' certificate in our Friday praise assembly at the end of each half term. If your child is totally unable to complete this at home, they will be expected to go into the hall during playtimes to read to an adult who will sign their reading record.

As part of our Big Maths lessons, children take a 'Big Maths Beat That' test each week. These tests are aimed at improving children's speed and recall of basic addition and multiplication facts. Please help your child learn these facts. Please note - each test has the same facts in it - they're just in a different order! Children in Year 6 will also be bringing home arithmetic tests that they have been doing in maths lessons for some extra practice in preparation for their SATs in May.

Ten, year group appropriate spellings, are given to the children once a week. The children are expected to learn to spell these words and to spend some time clarifying new or unfamiliar words. They will be tested on their spellings weekly. Please encourage your child to spend time learning their spellings each week.

The children have been given a 'home-school challenge' booklet full of puzzles and activities about the Mayans this week. These will be due in before the last day of the half term. If these are completed, the children will earn a certificate in the final praise assembly.

## Water bottles

It's important that children drink plenty of fluids during the day so please do send a water bottle in each day. We will remind your child they should take them home each night to be refilled. Please make sure these are labelled clearly with their name or initials.

## Deodorant

The children are getting to the age when they may need to use deodorant, especially as they tend to sweat more when they are running around at break and lunch times. The children can bring roll on deodorant with them (especially for after PE sessions), but please do not allow

children to bring aerosols, as this can aggravate asthma in some children as well as the school fire alarms.

### **School Uniform**

School uniform is important at Parkstone. We believe that a school uniform makes our school safer for students and encourages them to focus on their studies. Therefore, the children are expected to follow our school uniform policy. The girls should wear a white polo shirt or blouse with a grey pinafore, skirt or trousers. The boys should wear a white polo shirt or collared shirt with grey or black trousers. All children should also have a green jumper or cardigan along with **black shoes**.

### **PE Kit**

PE kits should arrive with your child on **Mondays and be taken home on Fridays for washing**. The PE kit should ideally include a change of t-shirt, some shorts for indoors and jogging bottoms or leggings for outdoor games and **either trainers or sandshoes**. Now that the weather is colder, please provide children with an appropriate jumper or jacket to wear for their outdoor sessions.

Children with pierced ears should remove earrings before PE or bring tape to cover their earrings. This is for health and safety reasons. **It is essential that all clothing, including PE kit, is labelled clearly with your child's name.**

### **Dates for your Diary**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	KS2 maths parent workshop
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	KS2 reading parent workshop
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	NSPCC Numbers Day
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Stay and Sing
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	SATs meeting for parents of Y6 children
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	World Book Day
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents Evening

If you have any queries about any of the above or school in general, then please do not hesitate to come and speak to one of us.

**The Year 5/6 team**