

Dear Parents

Welcome to Hawthorn class. We have enjoyed getting to know your children and they are settling quickly into new routines. Mrs Constantine teaches on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Bradbury teaches on Thursday and Friday. We will be supported by Mrs. Fogell and Mrs Worrall will be taking the class during our planning time.

Topics

Topics this term include: '1066 and all that' (Norman invasion) and 'Good vibrations' (sound) in science.

Homework

English: Homework includes spellings and reading books.

Please encourage your child to read regularly to develop fluency and reading stamina. This term we are concentrating on new vocabulary. Please check their understanding of any new words and record these words in the record book, along with a note of pages read.

Weekly spellings include spelling patterns and spelling rules, together with the statutory national curriculum words. Spellings are learnt on a Monday and will be added to Google Classroom, so that you can encourage your child to practise at home. We will be working on them in school too but it really helps if it is a joint effort. They will be tested on a Friday.

Maths:

Homework includes practising multiplication and division facts regularly. Children have a test once a week to check they are improving their own score or time. All children have a login for TT rock stars. Please allow your child to spend 5-10 minutes on the site most days (short, frequent sessions are much better than long, occasional ones).

At the moment, we are concentrating on instant recall of times tables- multiplication and division facts.

PE

Mr Sheldon will be teaching outdoor PE and this will take place on Monday afternoons. On Mondays, children should come to school wearing their outdoor kit. Please ensure that they have a waterproof coat and warm layers as the weather gets colder.

We will be doing indoor PE again this year! This will take place on Thursday afternoons. Please can children bring in their indoor kits, as soon as possible. We are sorry for the late notice on this and we understand if this takes a little while to sort out (indoor kit should be a white t shirt and black shorts – during this first half term, any colour is better than none!). This should be in a small bag (smaller the better)! Children **do not need pumps in school**. We hope to be able to fit all the kit bags into one box and would really appreciate your help with this.

Music

We will be taking part in the Derbyshire wider opportunities music programme this year, where all children will get the chance to learn to play the violin. More details will follow on this.

Outdoor clothes

We will try to take the children outside for playtimes and lunchtimes in all weathers. Wellies will be kept on our welly rack outside the classroom and waterproof trousers

etc will be kept on pegs in the cloakroom in case they are needed. Please ensure everything is named!

We are looking forward to teaching your children this year and hopefully returning to a more normal school life. If you do have any concerns, please email us on hawthornclass@simmondley.derbyshire.sch.uk

Thank you for your support.

Claire Constantine and Rachael Bradbury