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“Live, Love and Learn Together”

19th March, 2018

Dear Parents,

As we are now nearing the end of the spring term we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. By working together we will ensure that your child meets their full potential.

With this in mind we just wanted to remind you about how best you can help your child with their learning at home.

1) Read everyday with your child.

Ten minutes everyday will have such an impact.

a) If you could make sure your child reads their school book to you.

- Encourage them to sound out unknown words and blend them back together. For example church ch-u / chu-r / chur-ch = church.
- A reminder to make sure they are words that can be sounded out. Words like the, said and could cannot be sounded out. These are tricky or key words and children need to be able to read these on sight.

b) The word sheets in the back of their yellow reading record book will help with this too.

A lot of these are the tricky words so please make sure that you practice these too.

You can make games with them.

- Cut them up and stick them around the room. Ask your child to find a specific word or get them to collect them one at a time and tell you the word.
- You could play pairs with them, but you can only keep the pairs if you can say the word. Making it fun always helps!

Ideally we would like the children to get up to sheet 30 by the end of the academic year.

c) Ask your child a couple of comprehension questions related to what they have just read.

- Why did the character do that?
- What were they feeling?
- What might happen next?

The Big Cat books usually have comprehension questions in the back to help.

d) Reading to your child is a great activity for both you as a parent and your child. If you read a harder book to your child at bedtime it will introduce them to more complex words and ideas. This will further develop the enjoyment of reading.

e) If your child needs a new book then please remind them to put their book bag in the green box as they come into class so that we know they need changing.

2) Homework

New homework is given out every Friday. Homework folders should be given back in on a Thursday at the latest please. There is a homework box to put them just near the door.

a) **Children need to learn the spellings given out each week.**

- They have the Look, Cover, Write, Check sheets which can be done five times over the week.
- We would also recommend making sure they keep saying the word as they write it.
- Ask them to tell you a sentence with the word in it so that you are sure they understand it.
- We test the children on each word and out of order, so it would be helpful if you could ask them to write the words which you say to them too as a mini test.

b) **Phonics sheet** – this is related to the phonics work we will have covered that week.

Please make sure that you go through this with your child and get them to complete the work given.

c) **Maths.**

- There is always Sumdog that the children can access at home. This is such a brilliant tool and does have such a positive impact on children's understanding of maths.
- The children also have to know their 2x, 5x and 10x tables by the end of year 1. There are lots of APPs, songs and interactive games available online to help with this.

We do of course understand that we all have busy lives and it can be hard to get everything done but little and often is what will really help your child to progress with their learning.

If you have any concerns or queries, then please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be more than happy to help.

Again thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Ciorra & Mrs Stazicker.