



Otter Class Newsletter

Spring 2 – Week 1

Dear Otter Class Families,

On Thursday, it's **World Book Day!** Children can dress up if they like but it is optional. We spending lots of time doing book related activities on the day. Children are also welcome to bring in a favourite book for us to share. This can be a current favourite - maybe they have a favourite chapter we can share - or a favourite from the past

SATs: Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the SATs meeting on Monday. I realise that other commitments can make it impossible to attend these things, but hopefully you've all received the slides from Mr Shackleton and if you have any questions, you can catch us on the playground, email or arrange to pop in for a chat.

This week: Yesterday, I began the process of "conferencing" with some of the children and this will continue next week. We chatted about writing and reading/maths and discussed practical things that can be done to help the children achieve their absolute best, ready to go off to high school in the best position to face their next adventure.

Easter sessions: I am about to send invites to the Easter SATs sessions so, if your child is invited, you will receive the invite shortly (and definitely by the end of the weekend). I spoke to some of the children about the sessions in our conferences and the response was fantastic: they were really keen to be invited and come along. I'm so glad they don't see it as something negative but see it as an opportunity because that's exactly what it is. Mr Shackleton and I wouldn't be giving up part of our holiday with our own children if we didn't think it would be a huge benefit and a really great thing to do. **If your child isn't invited, please don't worry. We have discussed every child and worked out the best individual plan of action.**

At home: As it said on the slides, there are lots of things you can continue to do at home to support your child.

- Reading (see below for more details)
- Encouraging continued use of TTRS
- Asking random spellings (the year 5/6 list is on our webpage and I will add the year 3/4 list too. We are also looking at spelling rule and I will add details of these too so you can quiz the children or display the rules at home for them to look at randomly...why not stick them on the fridge, their bedroom door, next to the mirror in the bathroom etc!

- Continuing to encourage them to do any homework set.

Here are some links to some good revision guides and SATs question books. Obviously, it's not always financially possible to buy things like this so I'm not suggesting it as a "must" but just showing some good options if you did want to go down that route. Some revision books are available from Norfolk Libraries, however I can see that lots are already out on loan and there aren't a huge amount of copies. Children should be able to reserve books for free (otherwise I believe it's 60p) and the book will be moved to your local library for you to collect.

[KS2 English Year 6 SATS Revision Book \(for the 2025 tests\) | CGP Books](#)

[KS2 Maths Year 6 SATS Revision Book \(for the 2025 tests\) | CGP Books](#)

[KS2 Maths SAT Buster 10-Minute Tests - Book 1 \(for the 2025 tests\) | CGP Books](#)

[KS2 English SAT Buster 10-Minute Tests: Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling - Book 1 \(for 2025\) | CGP Books](#)

The revision books are great for looking at **how** to do things: the SATs busters are full of SAT style questions to try and answer. They work especially well together, with children completing a SATs buster test and then using the revision guide to help answer any questions that either they couldn't do or got wrong.

Homework:

Wow! What an amazing response to the half term homework booklet. I'm going to be looking through them this weekend, along with TTRS and the reading records, and next week I will let the children know how they got on. Thank you for supporting and encouraging them.

Reading challenge:

At the moment, we are definitely a class full of "lovers of stories" - when they are read to us! As we continue on our journey to becoming a class full of "readers and writers" please support us by reading to your child and listening to them read to you. Why not make it part of the routine before bed each night - turn off the screens, dim the lights a little and snuggle up for a story. Apart from being a lovely thing to do while they're still young enough, getting away from screens will also allow your child's circadian rhythm to recognise that it's time to sleep.

Reading records will be returned on Monday, ready to start another reading challenge. Remember, stamps can be earned in lots of ways:

- ❖ Reading at home 3 times
- ❖ Finishing a book and passing the quiz
- ❖ Doing the bonus challenge which we will decide on Monday.
- ❖ Completing an activity in the back of the reading record.
- ❖ Completing and passing 2 article quizzes.
- ❖ Being read to by an adult.

This week:

English: We've looked at lots of stories this week, as we learn how they follow generic structures depending on whether they are warning tales, journey tales, defeating the monster tales etc. **Challenge:** Ask your child to tell you the story of Edward and Abilene.

SPaG: We've looked at how and when to use colons this week.

Challenge: Ask your child to tell you the two places they can use a colon and what's important in each circumstance.

150-lap challenge: As a class we exceeded our 150-lap challenge. Thank you to everyone who sent in sponsor money and well done to all the children for working hard to get them done.

Art: On Wednesday, with Mr Shackleton, the children completed their art hot tasks. All I can say is, wow! They were exceptional!

History: We continued looking at the industrial revolution, this time focusing on the period's greatest inventions. We ended with a silent debate, responding to some controversial statements such as "nothing good came from the Industrial Revolution"!

PSHRE: This week, we discussed persuasive design of online games and platforms, what the nudge technique is and how this all adds to difficulties switching things off. We talked about why being online too much can be a problem and what choices we have when it comes to what we see online. I wonder if you've noticed a difference in how easily they switch off the devices this weekend or whether they have spotted any persuasion or nudges?

Dates to remember (subject to change):

- Pancake PE – Throughout the week
- World Book Day – Thursday 6th March
- Spring Personal Best Day – Tuesday 11th March
- Young Carers Action Day – Wednesday 12th March

Please remember, if there is anything you want to discuss, you can catch me on the playground for a quick chat or you can email otter@hinghamprimary.org.uk

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Moore