



Otter Class Newsletter

4th – 8th November 2024

Dear Otter Class Families,

Welcome to the second half of the Autumn term!

Our Learning:

A new half term means new topics to explore.

English – We've started our new unit, based on a new stimulus. This time, our writing outcomes will be linked to the short, animated film "Catch It". If you'd like to, you can watch the video here [Catch It - YouTube](#)

Maths – We're now moving on to our first fractions unit of the year.

Science – We're just finishing our "mouldy bread" experiment, then we'll be moving on to looking at light.

PE – This half term is all about "invasion games". With Miss Flowers, the children have started playing tag rugby. My PE lessons will focus on Hockey.



Geography – We are learning about what makes trade global. If you have any clean, empty food packets that display the Fairtrade logo, please send them in as we will be looking at these as part of our work.

DT – With Mr Shackleton, the children have started a food technology unit, all about pasta.

Coming home:

This week, all children should have brought home a card containing a QR code and all the details you need, for ordering their individual and sibling photos. Please check bags if they haven't given it to you yet! Also, for any children with a one-page profile, these have also been sent home this week.

Homework:

I didn't set homework from the books this week but there will be some set on Monday, to be in the following week (18th). TTRS time will also be set for those who need to improve their multiplication fluency, but all children would benefit from playing it, so please encourage them to spend some time on there.

Reading

Thank you and well done to everyone who joined in with the half term reading challenge. I will be setting another longer challenge on Monday. I really can't say enough about the benefits of reading, so please encourage your children to read regularly. This can be them reading their AR book to you, but it can also be a book from home that you read to them or that you read together-taking turns to read a page for example.

Research suggests that:

- Not reading at the expected level puts children at an increased risk of experiencing unemployment and poor health as adults.

- On the other hand, strong reading skills have been shown to improve children's academic attainment across a range of subjects, including English, maths and science.
- Reading for pleasure also supports routines later in life. Children who read for pleasure are more likely to adopt healthy behaviours.
- Children who read more, perform better in tasks of attention and have lower levels of hyperactivity.
- Children who regularly read for pleasure have better self-esteem and emotional regulation, with lower levels of anxiety and aggression, than those who don't.
- Reading enhances educational attainment. It supports cognitive development, reasoning and imagination. Reading also helps children to develop the capacity to problem solve.
- Reading for pleasure between the ages of 10 and 16 has a substantial effect on a child's cognitive scores in vocabulary, spelling and maths at age 16.

You can find out more and see the research evidence references at [The Book Trust](#) and [National Literacy Trust](#).

Things to remember:

- Children need a suitable coat and spare shoes/wellies in school each day. We go on the field as often as possible at lunchtime, but this can only happen if the children have a change of footwear.
- As the field does get wet, it might be a good idea to have a spare pair of socks as well.
- Please make sure everything is named. Lost property isn't "lost" for very long when there is a name it.
- All children need to bring a water bottle with them, every day please.
- PE is on Wednesday and Thursday. Please wear PE kit and remember, no jewellery (including earrings), hair needs to be tied back and badges need to be removed from jumpers.
- Our class page on the website has the links to TTRS and AR, along with the Renaissance ID that you might need for AR. If you do find yourself on the wrong school, please try using a private/incognito tab on your web browser. [Year 6](#)

Dates for the diary:

W/C 11.11.24	Parent/Carer-Teacher meetings.
28.11.24	Cross country final
05.12.24	UKS2 sing to the luncheon club at Lincoln Hall
18.12.24	Christmas Jumper Day
20.12.24	Last day of term.

There will also be information coming soon about an exciting spelling competition and the nativity.

I'm looking forward to meeting you all properly next week. Have a lovely, restful weekend.

Kind Regards

Mrs Moore