

Reminders ...

Homework

Homework for this term will focus on our Topics - 'Amazing Americas' until February half term and then 'The Vile Victorians'. The children will receive a creative homework choice menu related to their topic. They can choose from a range of activities (minimum one per week) and record in their homework book. Homework books should be handed in by the beginning of the last week before the half term and Easter breaks. We had some brilliant creative pieces produced last term.

- **Reading** – We very much believe in reading for pleasure and will always encourage our children to enjoy reading as much as possible. Children are expected to read regularly at home – this will mostly be the book that they have selected to read, but we also encourage reading child-friendly newspapers (such as First News) and articles online as well as listening to e-books. It is important that they bring their reading book to school each day.
- **Spellings** – We will have a spelling focus which will be introduced each week. Children will bring home some examples of words that use the weekly spelling pattern and will be tested at the end of the week.
- **Multiplication and Division Facts** – Multiplication facts are very important and your child will be using them continually throughout the year to support them across many different areas of maths so we really welcome any support you can give with learning these at home.

We thank you in advance for your support in ensuring that your child's homework is completed to a high standard and handed in on time so that it can be marked and feedback given. We understand that there may be times where a child may not be able to complete their homework on time due to other commitments outside of school but we do ask that we are informed so that we can give the child time to complete it.

P.E Lessons

PE will take place on a Monday and Friday afternoon. Please ensure that your child Comes to school wearing their full kit on these days. Please ensure that all P.E kit is clearly named – initials on the label in marker pen are fine.

Orchard Primary School

Class 8 Overview



Spring Term 2022

Classroom News ...

Welcome back. We hope that you have had an amazing Christmas and a fantastic New Year. The children have come back full of energy and excitement. I think the break was needed and they have had the chance to recharge their batteries.

Class Dojo – Please check this regularly. Where possible, we will be aiming to post at least twice a week. We will also be using this as a way of messaging, sending reminders for events or celebrating achievements in Class 8. Please note that we endeavour to respond to messages within 48 hours. If it is important, please come and speak to us at the end of the day or phone the office to make an appointment we are always happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Communication - School Information will normally be sent to you via e-mail, texts, dojo messages, flyers or letters with slips to return (do check your child has passed them on to you).

Rewards - We set high standards in all aspects of school life. Your child will be expected and encouraged to work to the best of their ability. All effort is praised and rewarded with house points, certificates and stickers.

Dates for your Diary

DIARY DATES FOR THE NEW YEAR

Jan 28th-30th - RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch

31st January – 4th February – National Story Telling Week

Tuesday 8th February - Safer Internet Day

Wednesday 9th (3.30-6.30pm) and Thursday 10th February (5.00-7.00pm) - Parent Consultations (TBC)

Friday 11th February - School Closes

14th - 18th February Half Term

Monday 21st February - School opens to pupils

Wednesday 23rd February – UKS2 Trip to the Black Country Museum

Thursday 3rd March - World Book Day

Friday 11th March – 20th March – British Science Week

Friday 18th March - Comic Relief

Friday 8th April - School closes for Easter

We are very much looking forward to the term ahead and to all the exciting activities we have planned.

Creative Curriculum: Our topic for the first half term is ‘Amazing Americas’. We kick off our topic with a geographical focus, starting with a global view before using Google Earth and Digimap to focus on Mexico and the countries of Central America looking closely at the landscape and different terrains. The historical aspect of the curriculum will look at the ancient Maya civilisation and we will find out about their beliefs, achievements and everyday lives from artefacts and historical discoveries. After half term, we will be finding out what it was like for a child growing up in the Victorian era. A close look at local censuses will provide the children with greater knowledge and understanding of Castle Donington in the 19th century.

English: We have started reading ‘Holes’ by Louis Sachar. It is a very enjoyable and thought-provoking story, examining issues such as friendship, crime and redemption. This will provide the context to write a journal from the point of view of one of the characters. We will also be writing our own myths, using the Mayan myth of the Hero Twins as a model. After the February break, we will be reading ‘Street Child’ which is based on a true story and looks at the plight of a Victorian orphan boy. Our writing genres will include a formal letter, a recount and a play script.

Maths: This half term, we will be building on the multiplication and division concepts we covered before Christmas by developing our understanding of written methods in order to multiply and divide larger numbers. We will then move onto fractions and look at equivalent fractions; mixed numbers and improper fractions; ordering and comparing fractions before learning how to add, subtract and multiply fractions. We will complete the spring term developing our understanding of decimal numbers to 3 decimal places and introducing percentages.

French: French lessons will be taught by Mrs Shields on a Wednesday.