

STEDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher
Mrs Sally Dreckmann

Friday 7th September 2018

Dear Parents,

I hope you've had a fantastic Summer and the children are looking forward to the new school year. I love this time of year and can't wait to see the children progress and enjoy their learning. This year I am going to work on all children having a growth mind set – I need them to always believe that they can achieve, even if they are finding it difficult. It would be brilliant if you could encourage these values at home – perseverance is key.

Important note – our class assembly for this year is Monday 25th March at 3pm.

Maths

Children will be taught in mixed groupings for Maths and will learn from each other. The areas of maths that we will cover from now until Christmas are number and place value, addition and subtraction, length and perimeter and multiplication and division.

By the end of year 4, children must be fluent in all times tables facts up to 12x12 and the related division facts. I will be assessing children's knowledge of these and will be sending home practice for children to work on. Please, please, please help with this at home.

Literacy

All Literacy for this term will be based on our topic. We will begin by looking at stories based around WW2 leading to children learning how to write their own story based in this period of time. Children will have lots of non fiction opportunities for writing including letters and diaries, instructional writing and recounts. We will also learn some of the significant poetry of the time and write some poems of our own from a child's eye view. I will encourage the children to read as many texts around the subject as possible and have attached the main texts we will be using. Spellings will be sent home on a Monday and will be tested the following Monday. We will continue our reading challenge but slightly differently this year – Mrs Cook and I will sign reading diaries every day and children will get a dojo point for every day that they read at home. Reading at home is the fastest way to increase your child's fluency and confidence in reading and I really need you to help with this.



A University of Chichester
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Responsibility Confidence Motivation Creativity Independence

Topic

Our topic for this term is World War 2 – A child's eye view. The topics that we will cover within this are – How it all began, Dunkirk and the Little Ships, The Battle of Britain – children will learn about the threat of German invasion in the summer of 1940 and how this led to the Battle of Britain that raged over the coast of England between July and October of that year. Evacuees- what would it have been like to be an evacuee during World War 2? Children will learn the reasons why evacuation happened in WW2 and where children were sent to live; discover what children were told to pack and how they prepared for life as an evacuee. They will explore their experiences during their evacuation and their return. Towards Christmas, we will look at Rationing and Victory. As always, I would love it if any parents/ grandparents / relations could give up any time to help in class. Even if only 10 minutes a week, it could really make a difference. It can be regular or a one off! Please let me know if this is something you could help with.

Badgers are fortunate to be receiving a weekly drama lesson from an outside agency, on a Monday afternoon. We are hugely looking forward to this enrichment activity. Aspire PE will continue on a Thursday, but please ensure your children have their PE kit in school every day. You may have heard the children talking about shakey wakey – every morning we hope to start the day by running around the playground. An active body leads to an active mind and we are strongly encouraging this as part of our growth mind set tool kit.

If you have any concerns or worries concerning your child please do contact me as a first port of call, even if it seems insignificant. I will do my best to resolve it for you. I know for some of you that are working this can be difficult, so feel free to get in touch via class dojo or the school office.

On a separate note, children's drink bottles in the classroom need to have water in. If they have a separate drink for lunch then this can be squash or juice. I'm happy for children to have a separate bottle in the classroom for their water,

Together we can ensure the best progress for your child – let's start the Autumn term as we mean to go on. I will endeavour to put a summary on dojo each week of what we are covering in Maths and English the following week.

Warm regards,

Mrs Hines

Book list for this term (in case you want to buy any to read at home)

The Lion and the Unicorn- Shirley Hughes

Friend or foe – Michael Morpurgo

The Little Ships – Louise Borden

When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit – Judith Kerr

(There are a range of texts here to suit different abilities.)