



Dear Parents / Carers



It was lovely to see so many of you at our Celebration Assembly this morning. We look forward to seeing you at our next one on **MONDAY 16th DECEMBER** to help us celebrate the pupils' achievements.

School Expectations

Just a reminder of the School's expectations as regards Reading and Maths homework. We expect ALL children to read or be read to for 20 minutes each day and for this to be recorded in their Reading Log. All children Year 1 and above should complete at least 45 minutes Maths Whizz each week (Y5/6 – this is 60 minutes). We appreciate your help as we know that nagging is hard work!



Children in Need

On Friday 15th November Thomas Eaton School appeared on Look East! A huge thank you goes to Mrs Cavilla for making 150+ Pudsey biscuits which the children bought. We raised £107.00!! Thank you very much everyone!

Celebration of Learning

I know that the parents/carers who have attended our Class' Celebrations of Learning have enjoyed them and seen evidence of the School's focus on developing the children's oracy skills in action. You are all more than welcome to join us at these Assemblies. **Armstrong Class will share their learning on Thursday 23rd January and Thompson Class will present on Friday 31st January.** We look forward to seeing you there.

Ofsted

As you are aware Ofsted visited our school this week. We welcomed two inspectors and they spent two days visiting all classes, talking to staff, parents/carers and pupils and looking at children's learning. We hope that their report will be published before Christmas, however, we want to say a big thank you to all of you who completed the online survey and to the children who were all keen to share their learning and were, in the Inspectors' words, "friendly, polite and welcoming".

PTFA Events

A reminder of the forthcoming events

Friday 29th November – Children's Christmas present Room

Friday 6th December – 9.30am Christmas Coffee Morning and 3.30pm Christmas Fayre. We hope to see you at these events!

Our Vocab superheroes!!

In order to further develop our children's understanding of a range of vocabulary, we are introducing 3 new superheroes! – **Phoneme Phantom**, **Graphic Guardian** and **Spelling Spy**. We will be sending you more details soon and these Superheroes will soon be appearing on our school website. If your child does mention them, please encourage them to explain how these characters are helping them in their learning!

Phoneme Phantom Teaching Ideas

Superpowers – Powerful Ears, Hair Sticks, Shield Transmitter

- 'Sounds like...'
- Tune into beginning, middle, ending sounds – identify and connect to known words
- Segment and blend phonemes to support articulation and to make sound connections
- Segment, blend and emphasise syllables to support articulation and to make sound connections
- Repeat and articulate new words to support oral fluency
- Read aloud and re-read to build fluency
- Build on phonological awareness strategies – link to phonics learning
- Use oral rehearsal and repetition to prepare for writing
- Word ladder – CVC words
- 'Word Hippo' website for useful rhyming words



Graphic Guardian Teaching Ideas

Superpowers – Iron Fist, Direction Glasses, Super Strength

- Explore letter, pattern and word shapes to build visual word memory
- Commit familiar patterns 'to the hand' by integrating handwriting in vocabulary learning
- Integrate handwriting practice into phonics and spelling sessions
- Teach correct position, spacing and directionality – practise makes permanent!
- Teach joined writing to develop speed, accuracy and hand strength for fluency
- Scribble spell
- Word snakes
- Grid spelling
- Speed write



Spelling Spy Teaching Ideas

Superpowers – Utility Belt, Pattern Glasses, Tricky Tome

- 'Looks like...'
- Identify shared visual patterns in words
- Spot the 'tricky bit' in words – What is difficult? What do I recognise that can help me remember?
- Link vocabulary learning with the teaching of spelling – spelling with a purpose
- Teach spelling patterns using common letter strings
- Look for words within words
- Use word sorts to reveal and discuss spelling rules
- Encourage pupils to spell new words using analogy – link shared visual features in words
- Teach editing and proofreading strategies to help pupils to apply spelling knowledge, in context
- Word ladder (beginning and ending letter)
- Code breaker
- 'Word Hippo' website for 'words that start with...'

