

# Thomas Eaton Primary Academy

Part of The Diamond Learning Partnership Trust

Established in the Queen's Jubilee Year 2012

Church Street, Wimblington, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 0QS  
Tel: 01354 740392 Fax: 01354 740640 email: [office@thomaseaton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@thomaseaton.cambs.sch.uk)  
[www.thomaseatonschool.co.uk](http://www.thomaseatonschool.co.uk)

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Susannah Connell BSc MA (Ed Mgt) NPQH

Head of school: Mrs Nicola Jones BEd NPQH

## **Curie Class: Summer Term 1, 2019**

26th April 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back! We trust that you all had a great Easter holiday and that you are now feeling refreshed. The summer term is upon us and whilst this will be our penultimate newsletter of this academic year, we will ensure that the term ahead is full of excitement for the pupils in Curie class! The children have made a great start back and we are very much looking forward to sharing the new areas of study with them this term.

### Reading

As previously stated, we continue to aspire for our children to be able to read for pleasure, with fluency and understanding. Daily reading practice at home remains one of the most vital home learning task for all pupils, accounting to 15/20 minutes every weekday. How this is undertaken will depend on your child's ability. At this stage, some pupils may still be working on the basic skills and for these children, support from home is vital. Without adequate reading skills children will find it difficult to access the curriculum and this will obviously put them at a disadvantage. Like last term, we will monitor the frequency that the



children are reading to another adult at home, so please make sure that you sign and date their reading records each time you listen to them read. **Whilst we endeavour to hear children read in school, ultimately it is your responsibility as a**

**parent to play your part in this too.** Don't forget, that any books the children read from outside of school may be on the Accelerated Reader system. You can check online by using the following link

<http://www.arbookfind.co.uk/UserType.aspx>

In conjunction with Accelerated Reader, this term we will be continuing to set a whole class word count challenge. In the Spring term, Curie pupils read an amazing 2,565,480 words, smashing their target set. This term we are challenging the children to read 3,250,000 words. The children are really motivated by the 100% club membership so this will continue. It was great to see the majority of the children reading frequently and consistently scoring well in their AR quizzes. However, there are still a few children who infrequently take reading quizzes. These children are on our radar and we look forward to everyone playing their part this term.

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## English and Maths

This term, the children will continue to receive both five Maths and English sessions per week. Alongside this, the children will also participate in sessions based upon the fluency and automaticity of multiples and specific spelling sessions based on teaching a variety of spelling strategies to aid the children, with all words taught taken from the spelling list within the curriculum.

All our English lessons are based around our class reader so the children can see a direct link and purpose to the work covered. Our current class reader is titled 'Leon and The Place Between' by Angela McAllister. Do you dare to step into the place between? Leon is a boy who believes in magic. This exciting and beautifully illustrated picture book follows Leon beyond the realm of the circus big-top and, with a 'Pouff!' from the great magician, Abdul Kazam, onto a magic carpet ride into the place where the magic sends you...

## Handwriting and presentation

Children are expected to use neat, clear, joined handwriting in all books at all times and we will encourage every child to take pride in their presentation. If their work is not to an acceptable standard, they will be asked to repeat the work in their break / lunchtime.

## PE / Games

This term, Curie class will be participating in outdoor games sessions. **All** children need to wear the appropriate kit. Please provide your child with dark shorts and a white t-shirt. Please help to ensure your child has their kit with them at all times. All long hair needs to be securely tied back and jewellery removed. PE is an important part of our curriculum and children should all take part in **all** sessions. If your child cannot take part for medical reasons, please speak to the class teacher to make them aware. Any child who is excused from taking part in a PE/games session requires a written, dated note signed by an adult/doctor.

## **Equipment for school**

Our policy is that we do not allow children to wear jewellery to school. However, we will allow them to wear watches and encourage the wearing of analogue watches (with hands, not digital numbers) to help them learn how to tell the time. Earrings must only be studs and should be removed on PE days please. Toys are also not permitted to be in school. **Please remember to send your child to school with a water bottle every day** which they can keep in the designated area during lessons. Please ensure that the bottle only contains water and is clearly labelled. At playtimes, children should bring in a healthy snack – fruit is ideal. Sweets, chocolate and crisps are not allowed.

**Please label all your child's clothes, lunchboxes, water bottles and bags.**

## Spellings

The children will continue to have a spelling session incorporated in class teaching three times a week based on teaching a variety of spelling strategies to aid the children, with all words taught taken from the spelling list within the new curriculum. They will also continue to be tested each Wednesday on the individual spelling lists that they have been given to learn. It is an expectation that **all** children learn their spellings and then use them in their independent writing. Spending five minutes focussing on one spelling is far more beneficial than trying to learn them all the night before.



## Non-negotiables

A polite reminder of our expectations of a Key Stage Two child at Thomas Eaton Primary Academy.

## Writing Non-negotiables

In our writing we must:

- use capital letters , ? ! .
- use a variety of conjunctions: when, if, because, although
- use prepositions, adverbs and exciting verbs
- use joined handwriting
- make sure lines of writing are spaced sufficiently

## Maths Non-negotiables

In our Maths books we must:

- write 1 digit per square
- use a ruler to draw all lines
- form all digits correctly
- write the question number then leave a square before the answer
- miss a line between each question
- show our working out



## Home Learning : menu of topic based and creative tasks

Below are the choices for Curie's home learning tasks for this term. We have tried to choose homework which your child will enjoy doing and have offered a range of tasks so hopefully there are a number of things that will interest you too! All children must complete one task each half term from the menu below. They are welcome to do more, but one is the minimum. They may present their home learning however they wish but their work needs to be **NEATLY** presented, so please ensure that your child takes care with their writing and spelling. Please encourage your child to be as creative as they can and make their work exciting and interesting for us to read and display.

At least one Home Learning task must be completed and returned **week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019.**

The second Home Learning task must be completed and returned **week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019.**

<b>Activity 1: Information booklet.</b> Choose one individual who has had a significant impact on the world we live in today, carry out some research and produce an information booklet about your chosen person. Your booklet will be displayed in class.	<b>Activity 2: Art</b> Draw or paint a portrait of a significant individual. Embellish the picture with different materials to add interest or texture. You may wish to consider creating a collage too!
<b>Activity 3: Maths</b> Write and solve some worded problems which are linked to significant individuals. For example: <i>Henry VIII sent Anne Boleyn three love letters a week for sixteen weeks. How many love letters did Anne Boleyn receive in total?</i>	<b>Activity 4: Webpage</b> Design an attention grabbing webpage about an individual who has had a significant impact on the world we live in today. Be creative. Use factual information and links to other websites that could be used to link to your chosen individual.
<b>Activity 5: Get creative!</b> Choose a significant individual and recreate an item that they wore or used. For example: You could create a crown belonging to Queen Elizabeth II, Florence Nightingales lamp or Neil Armstrong's space helmet!	<b>Activity 6: Music</b> Choose a particular style of music from the twentieth century, a band or individual linked to that style of music and research the impact it had on society. For example – Rock 'n' Roll, Reggae, Rap or Disco. Present your findings in any way you wish!

## **Maths Whizz**

In addition to daily reading and the above home learning tasks, it is an expectation that **all** children complete 45 minutes of Maths Whizz per week (Monday to Sunday). If there is a valid reason why your child is unable to complete this, please contact us.

If you wish to discuss anything or have any concerns regarding your child please do not hesitate to contact us through the school office. If we do not know about a problem, we cannot help. We hope that we will all have a super term, with teachers, children and parents all working together to achieve success.

Yours sincerely,

N Webb J Turner.

Mrs N Webb, Miss J Turner and the Curie team.