Friday 16th March 2018

**Class 3 updates**

Dear Parents/ Legal Guardians,

Re-arranged Roots and Shoots session will take place on Tuesday 20th March.

Our Science Day yesterday went ahead with a slightly different focus, I am sure your children are all keen to make ‘slime’ at home. The visitor I had organised has now been re-arranged to come in on Friday 23rd March.

**Homework**

As so many of you have had problems with enabling Flash on Active Learn please note the following changes to homework until further notice.

Wherever possible I try and stay in the classroom at lunchtime to let children access the internet and do their online homework. However, due to staff absence I have had to cover lunch break duty over the last few weeks and as our rule is Click and Be Safe where an adult is near while children use the internet this has been unable to happen so please bear this in mind.

**All children –**

Keep learning and using the words from the Year 3,4,5,6 (or the one your child has been given if different) these are in the yellow homework book and also at the back of the planner. To ensure that children are not learning to the test and applying the learnt words to their work I will randomly test 5 spellings at a point during the week without prior notice! (I have picked this tip up from DHS).

**Spell Blaster**

For a different way to learn - On School 360- Go to J2e – then click on J2 Blast. Go to Spell Blaster (new spelling game) scroll through and you will come to Y3/4 and Y5/6 lists which then give you the appropriate spellings. You can practice or go online against children from other schools.

**Times Tables**

Keep learning your times tables, this is an important skill and it is imperative that at this age your child knows their x tables and can recall them quickly as it helps in so many areas of maths. **Ttblast on J2Blast on School 360 is great for this.** Once again, I will randomly check all children’s knowledge of their tables.

**J2 SATs Blast**

I would encourage all children to work on this as it will support what we are doing at school throughout KS2 not just Year 6. It will also help the children to develop the speed which they answer questions which is a key skill that I am working on at the moment.

**Reading**

As you will know from the letter last week we now use Accelerated Reader in school. The children have dedicated reading time 2 or 3 times per week so they can complete their quizzes at school. The expectation for our age of children is that they should be reading 3 of the smaller ORT Stage 12-16 books at least per week which is about 300 pages, so it is important that they are reading regularly at home. The hour per week we have always expected is a minimum. Please continue to ask your child questions about the story and write in the Reading Record.

All homework should be ongoing as it is skills practice but as a rule, I generally check online access and activities completed by Friday each week.

**Year 6**

In addition, the children will have a small weekly task on reading, maths, spelling and grammar. This is handed out on Fridays and due in on Thursdays.

**Football and PE this Monday**

Thank you for your support regarding our football initiative in school last term and being patient with all the cancellations. In order for me to confirm the team for the next game –

**Away to Longhoughton, Alnwick Wednesday 21st March 3.30 p.m.**

**Please note this is held on the 3G pitch at Westfield Park Longhoughton.**

Transport will be provided **to** the game, and as the arrangements worked so well for our last game in Alnwick parents will be expected to arrange for their child to be picked up after the game in Alnwick. This should be no later than **4.30 p.m.** at Westfield Park, Longhoughton.

*Football Squad Only*

Please fill in the slip below if you would like your child to attend and the end of match arrangements and return by **Monday 19th March** so that I can confirm the team on *Tuesday in the children’s planner.*

There will be a training session for all of the football squad on **Monday 19th March** at Willowburn while the other children have their sports session as it is proving impossible to have a training session on our school field (**please come to school dressed for PE**). Please note will be no short training session this Wednesday.

**PE for MONDAY**

For children who are **not on** the football squad I have arranged for them to take part in a different sports session at Willowburn on Monday 19th March **so please come to school dressed for PE.**

Thank you for all your support and I look forward to seeing you at parents evening on Monday 19th March.

Kind Regards,

Belinda Athey.

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To Whittingham C of E Primary School

My child ………………….. (name) is/ is not able (***please delete as appropriate***) to play in the match against Longhoughton at Westfield Park on Wednesday 21st March.

I understand that my child will be transported to the game by bus and that I am responsible for arranging transport from Longhoughton.

The pick-up arrangements are ………………………………………… Signed………………………