



St Andrew's CE VC Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs H Green

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to another school year at St. Andrew's. I hope you have all enjoyed the summer with your children and that you have managed to spend some quality time together making memories. It is always a bit of a shock to the system to both children and staff to come back after such a long break!

Your Planet Needs You!

Our learning for the first two terms is linked heavily to our science topics of Materials and Animals and Classification and Adaptation. We will be thinking about small ways we can make changes which will have a positive impact on the environment and the home learning also reflects this. We have a lot of exciting learning planned so have decided not to try to squeeze it all into one term! There will still be a homework grid per term though.

As part of our learning, we will be creating eco-bricks and would like to work towards a school building project using these. If any of you feel you would be able to offer expertise and support in this area, it would be greatly appreciated. Please pop in and see me.

Class text: Beetle Boy by M G Leonard

Our class text this term is 'Beetle Boy' by M G Leonard. This links well to our topic and we will be soaking up information about different types of beetles whilst reading it which will help us to classify and sort a variety of different beetles. We will also be reading a range of non-fiction books related to recycling and waste and thinking about what there is in our local area to help us reduce what we throw away.

Home Learning and Spelling

Please see the home work grid for details of this term's home learning. Spellings will come each Thursday for a test the Friday of the following week. I am sending home the whole list of statutory spellings for Year 5 & 6. The children need to be able to spell all of these by the end of Year 6 as well as using them in their independent writing. To help them with this, I will choose a selection each term which link as much as possible to our learning in class. We will also look at different spelling patterns which will help children develop strategies for new words. Spellings sent home will sometimes be from the statutory words list, sometimes be based on a spelling pattern studied in class and will also sometimes be a mixture.

Reading and Home Support

We have a new reading challenge this year! After the success of Race to the Sun, the children will this time have the opportunity to Race around the World! The principles of the challenge will be the same; after reading 15 times, your child will receive a certificate and move to a new country. Once they reach the end, they will receive a book as a prize. Please remember to tick and initial the recording sheet in your child's reading diary to show when they are reading. Children just need to share these with me or Mrs Coyle each time they have read 15 times.

Please also help your child to continue to learn/consolidate their times tables. Being able to recall these, at speed, really does help children in maths lessons; it's much easier to make sense of a new concept if you have number facts at your fingertips. There are a few suggested websites for practising times tables on the home learning grid.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and see me.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. Sarah Woodcock