

Caversham Park Primary School



Together we enjoy, create and achieve

Headteacher: Miss G. Ray

Telephone: (0118) 937 5433

Email: admin@cavershampark.reading.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am very excited to welcome the children into/ back into Owl Class. We have had a fantastic couple of days settling in and it has been lovely to both welcome back the year 4s and get to know the year 3s. We have already started our transition text for writing- *Change Sings* by Amanda Gorman- alongside Duck and Woodpecker classes, and look forward to sharing our work with you all soon.

Class arrangements

As per last year, maths will be taught in separate year groups, with all of the other subjects taught together. I will teach the year 4 maths whilst Mrs Twyford teaches the year 3 maths.

On a Monday morning, Mrs Newbury will be teaching the class during my PPA time. She will teach guided reading and the year 4 maths lesson. Mrs Newbury will also be teaching Wednesday's maths lesson for year 3.

PE

Woodpecker and Owl class will be joining together for their PE sessions this year. Our PE days are **Tuesday** and **Friday** but please keep their PE kit in school every day in case of timetable changes. This term our indoor sports is gymnastics and our outdoor sports is hockey. Please ensure your child's PE kit is fully labelled as we had lots of unclaimed lost property last year! Your child needs suitable sports trainers for outdoor PE and non-slip plimsoles (or bare feet) for indoor lessons. Those children with pierced ears should remove their earrings or have their own ear tape (to be kept in their PE bag) to cover them. All children are requested to tie hair up where it is long, especially during sporting or physical activities.

Homework

Homework will be handed out on **Friday** to be returned the following **Thursday**. Year 3 will usually be given two pieces of homework each week (English/maths and spellings). Year 4 will have the same amount initially and increase to three pieces (English, maths and spellings) by the end of the year. Homework will be paper-based and sent home in the children's reading folders.

Spelling tests will be on a **Thursday/ Friday** (depending on their phonics/ spelling groups). Children should practise their spellings daily to support their writing.

Regular reading and practise of times tables and spellings is expected in addition to the homework.

Reading

Reading is incredibly important to a child's overall learning and attainment and is a foundation for strong writing. We expect children to be reading at home at least three times a week (ideally daily) and each read should be signed by an adult. Reading records are checked on **Monday**. In KS2, children are responsible for changing their own books, with time allocated for this each day.

As your child becomes a more fluent and confident reader, your support can shift to discussing the book. Asking questions to get them to recall the key information, make predictions or make inferences (using evidence from the text) will support their comprehension skills.

Reading books and reading records, along with homework, letters and any work to be sent home, are kept safe in the children's' individual 'reading folders'. These must be brought to and from school each day. Children should look after their folder.

Times tables

Children should be practising their times tables at home. Throughout year 3 and 4, the maths curriculum increasingly relies on times tables knowledge and not being able to recall facts fluently becomes a barrier to learning. By the end of year 4, they should know all their times tables. Daily practise of times tables- through chanting, games, online practise etc.- will support their maths learning in class. We regularly use timestables.co.uk and 'Hit the button' for practise in school and these can also be used at home.

Your child will have specific times tables to focus on, depending on their Wizard maths level. If they/ you do not know which times tables these are, or you would like resources to support their learning of times tables, please come and see me.

Year 3 parents only

As free snacks are not provided in KS2, please ensure you send your child in with a healthy (fruit) snack.

Year 4 parents only

In June, the year 4 children will complete the government's statutory multiplication check to determine whether they can recall their times tables fluently. More information will be sent out nearer the time. In the meantime, it is important they practise their times tables regularly so they can reach their target of recalling all of their times tables by the end of the year.

If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to come and see me. I prefer to sort out any worries/issues sooner rather than later! The best time to speak to me is the end of the day unless there is something that I need to know about before the beginning of the day. I hope to meet some of you at the upcoming school coffee morning and look forward to working in partnership with you over the coming year.

Kind regards,

Miss Gundry
Owl Class (Year 3 & 4) teacher

Queensway, Caversham Park Village, Reading, RG4 6RP.
website: www.cavershamparkprimaryschool.co.uk