



## Elm Class Newsletter Autumn 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a good summer and you are all refreshed and ready for a new school year. This term we will be taking a trip back one hundred and fifty years to Victorian Donington. We shall be looking at everyday life in the locality and the changes that have taken place. After half term I want to focus on the effect of World War One on the people of Donington. If any of you have any artefacts or information about Donington's history, please feel free to share it with us. Can I say a how impressed I have been with your children's attitude towards the new term. They have settled brilliantly.

Can I also say how smart your children look? Please can you make sure all uniform is clearly labelled with a permanent ink pen or sewn name tape.

Thank you for your support,

### *Autumn Curriculum*

**History:** A local Study - looking at and comparing life in Donington over the past 200 years.

**Geography:** Maps skills, identifying land use and the changes in population, infrastructure and transport since Victorian times.

**Science:** Earth and Space

**R. E.** Religion In Our Neighbourhood

**D.T.** Textiles - Victorian Cross Stitch

**I.C.T.** Programming –Microsoft skills

**P.S.H.E** Relationships and citizenship including planning a fundraising event.

**Music and Art** will be taught by Mrs Skanski Such.

**French** Where we live

**P.E.** will be on Wednesdays and Fridays. (Please have indoor and outdoor kit in school on these days.)

### Homework

Homework will be issued on Fridays and will consist of a Maths and English task. There will be a topic or science activity too.

Homework should be handed in the following Thursday or earlier. Effort and presentation will be rewarded with house points.

If your child is having difficulty with their homework, they can bring it in to school on Mondays and we can help them.

It would be helpful if you could keep an eye on your child's homework to make sure they are completing it in good time and not leaving it until the last minute.

Reading to an adult each day is also essential.

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### Helping Your Child At Home

It is important that your child knows their multiplication facts to at least 12 x 12 at instant recall. The same goes for number complements to 100. There are various games on the internet which are good for reinforcing knowledge of these facts. Also, be aware of the application of mathematical skills when you are out and about on journeys or when shopping and cooking. Below is a list of ideas (tried and tested with my own children and grandchildren).

#### Maths ideas:

- When shopping, ask them to keep a running total in their heads.
- Ask them to check whether a special offer is really a good deal.
- Ask them to predict 'how much change'?
- Ask them the time and how much time is left before their favourite TV programme is on etc.
- When on a journey ask them to calculate the total mileage or how many miles are left to go.
- Make a tally chart of different makes or colours of cars. Convert the results in to fractions and percentages.
- How much of each ingredient will I need if I double a quantity for a recipe?
- Do maths puzzles such as Sudoku in newspapers and magazines.

#### Writing ideas:

- Encourage them to write a diary.
- Handwrite thank you letters or write emails.
- Play scrabble or other spelling related games.
- Do crosswords or codeword puzzles in newspapers or magazines.

**Remember also the importance of daily reading with *or* to your child.**

#### Useful websites:

[www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/revision](http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/revision)

[www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary)

[www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk)

[www.crickweb.co.uk](http://www.crickweb.co.uk)

[www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk)

[www.compare4kids.co.uk](http://www.compare4kids.co.uk)

### Class Assembly

*Our Class Assembly will take place on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November*

