



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you are settling into the new school year and are looking forward to the rest of the first half term. I am particularly excited to continue my first term here as a qualified teacher at Great Easton and look forward to the busy year ahead! Myself and the class TA, Mr Smith - whom we are exceptionally lucky to have - cannot wait to continue all of the exciting things that are planned for the Burrow this year.

You can see from the topic map that we have an extremely busy first term. We will be exploring animal food chains in science, writing myth and legend stories inspired by the tale of Bedd Gelert in english, deepening our understanding of maths and focusing on place value, creating Mamma Mia inspired music pieces and of course, learning all about the wonderful ancient Egyptians in history!

Spellings will be sent home each week based on the National Curriculum expectations for each year group. Spellings will go home with the children on a Monday and will be tested the following Monday or Tuesday, allowing a full week for the children to learn and practice them. In addition to this, some children may receive extra spellings if myself or Mr Smith spot any recurring spelling mistakes in writing books to allow the children to improve their spellings of words that they actually use! Mr Smith will work with children who require any additional support but any help that you can give at home will also make a huge difference.

I am extremely keen to have a class full of times tables superstars! To ensure that the children remain enthusiastic, we will be making sure that times tables are tested regularly; first in order and then in any order. Myself and Mr Smith are creating a class reward scheme to recognise those children who work the hardest to improve their times tables. Sometimes children will be required to repeat times tables that they have already learnt but this just ensures that the children have really mastered them and in turn, has a bigger impact on their maths learning.

Reading diaries will be sent out with the children and should return to school **every** day. The expectation is that the children should read every evening - even if it is only a couple of pages! Please encourage your children to fill in their reading diaries and remember that any type of reading is better than not reading at all! Ask your children to help read a recipe or a newspaper and this can still be recorded into their diaries! I will be setting up a reading group for the children that struggle to find a book that they enjoy or those who just find reading difficult. I think that it is an extremely important life skill and I will work hard to help the children to develop their love of reading this year. Major Read and Paige Turner will also continue to search for their most committed reading champions this half term!

P.E will take place on a _____ and a _____. It is very important that the children bring their P.E kit to school every day as we never know when we might like to take our learning into a different environment! Please ensure that your children have a full P.E kit as we all know how unpredictable the weather can be. For swimming, all children will need to bring a swimming kit, towel and swimming hat (including the boys).

The children should hopefully have their logins for the incredible apps and websites that Great Easton has to offer to enhance the students' learning. Remind your children to be SMART at home and read new books on *Reading Eggs*, improve their times tables with *Times Tables Rockstars*, develop their maths skills with *Doodlemaths* and explore what the world has to offer with *Oddizzi*. Don't forget that the Burrow now has a SMART class challenge which the whole class are invited to take part in. How many challenges can your child tick off from the list? There are prizes to be won!

If you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to pop in at any time or email me at: lwilson@greateaston.sch.uk

Miss Wilson

