



Dear Parents and Carers and Lower Dart Children,

Spring Term 2016

Happy New Year to all! We hope that you have all had a lovely winter's holiday. The children have been doing some super writing over the last few days and have got cracking on using money in maths. It's been a great start and may it continue with lots of fun, exciting learning and growing brains! This term the children will be taught by Miss Mount all week, except on Friday afternoons, when they will have Mr Stokes. We are mainly supported by Debbie Dracup (Wed, Thus & Fri), who will be supporting the whole class and some individual children with their studies in and out of the classroom.



Topic: Our topic this term will be 'Ancient Egyptians'. The children have already shown lots of enthusiasm and I've already had several items of bonus homework! Well done Team! This theme will run through much of the children's studies, particularly within history, geography, literacy, art and design. If you have any experience of living or travelling in Egypt and are willing to come and share it with the class, please let us know.

Curriculum: The children will be developing their literacy skills and the Year 2s will continue to build on all the skills and knowledge that they will need for their SATs tests in May, with work linked to the above theme. All children continue to have four phonics/spelling sessions a week, including the test on Fridays. The children will have an hourly maths lesson each day, focusing on a range of mental and written strategies. Children will then be able to move on to be able to use those skills in a variety of problem-solving situations. We will continue to encourage the children to learn their times tables at school (Times Table Towers!) and at home, as well as practise written methods of calculation.

PE: Your children will need their PE kits in on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays**. It is very important that they have kit in school for their PE sessions on these days especially in the colder weather. Handball is our main focus and we hope to get lots of children to various festivals and competitions



Homework: We will continue to send spellings home as from this week. Please make sure the children have a chance to practise them for the test on Fridays. The class have had an input into their homework tasks and one should be completed each week of their choice, to be handed in on THURSDAYS. The tasks are designed to be fun and some may be done on their own, but some tasks will need your help, but they should be fun for you as well!



If would like to discuss any aspect of your child's school experience during the term please feel welcome to drop in to see us. If you have any concerns please don't wait for the parents evening in February. We are also very happy if you would like to come into the classroom and see first hand the sort of experience your child is having in Lower Dart.

We will be taking great care to ensure all members of the class are challenged in their work and enjoy all aspects of their learning. We have a continued emphasis on Building Learning Power, but we will also get the children to understand and reflect on the different learning styles that the children all have. Thank you for helping us by encouraging your child to complete their homework and by having the right learning equipment (and PE kit) in school every day.

Sophie Mount & Des Stokes.