

Dear Parents and Carers of children in Lower Dart,

Summer Term 2018

It's great to be back and to have some nice weather! The children are all bright, breezy and looking forward to the summer term and they will have lots of adventures in their learning! This term the children will continue to be taught by Miss Mount all week, except on Wednesday afternoons, when they will have Tom Deam for Violin and Abi Cowell for Dartmoor 3 Ball / Athletics. We have the wonderful Debbie Dracup (Mon-Wed) who will be supporting the whole class and some individual children with their studies, in and out of the classroom. We also have amazing Claire who is our 1:1 support, all week. We are also delighted to welcome Miss Rebecca Faulkner, from Exeter University, to our class, for most of the summer term.



Topic: Our topic this term will be 'Medieval Widecombe' We will start with mapping out our local area and where we are in the country/world, then travel back in time to find out what the village would have looked like. We hope to investigate and answer many questions, such as: What was it like in 'The Middle Ages'? What did children get up to then? What did people wear? What did they eat? What jobs did they have? We also hope to be going on a day trip, linked to this theme. Watch this space!

Curriculum: The children will be developing their literacy skills, including composition, grammar, spelling and punctuation and the Year 2s will continue to build on all the skills and knowledge that they will need for their SATs tests during the week beginning 20th May, with work linked to 'Medieval Widecombe' as much as possible. Children will also be having phonics or spelling sessions on most days to help them build their spelling and reading skills.

There will of course, be our daily maths lesson, focusing on a range of mental and written strategies, and broader topics such as co-ordinates, measures, time, shape and data. We will be encouraging the children to learn their times tables at school (I've lost count of how many Times Table Towers certificates I've given out and I am always happy to do more!) and at home, as well as practise written methods of calculation.

PE: Your children will need their PE kits in on **WEDNESDAYS (Dartmoor 3 Ball/ Athletics) and swimming kits on MONDAYS**. It is very important that they have kit/swimming things in school for their PE sessions on these days. Many children still have vital elements of their kit missing.



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.



Please continue to read every day with your child and have a very quick question at the end e.g. What do you think will happen next? Why? Who is your favourite character? Why? Which bit of information was most/least interesting? Why? etc.

We will review the homework tasks, as few children are doing many at all, though several children made amazing efforts in the last two terms, so thanks for your help with these.

In the meantime, please practise these times tables: 2, 5, 10 & 3 (Year 2) and 2, 5, 10 (if not secure) and 3, 4, 8 (Year 3), and keep up any opportunities for telling the time at home. If you are out shopping any opportunities for adding up and/or giving change are always helpful.

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 get in touch rather than waiting for your child's school reports at the end of term. 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. Thank you for helping us, by encouraging your child to complete their homework and by having the right learning equipment in school every day.

Sophie Mount, Debbie Dracup, Claire Hutchings & Rebecca Faulkner.