

# Westfields

## JUNIOR SCHOOL

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 @westfields\_jun

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Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful way to end the term with our Christmas Play, 'Lights, Camel, Action!' We were so proud of all the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm the children have shown during performances and we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did! But looking now to our new term, we wanted to share a few key details and reminders with you. Overleaf you will find an overview of our topic areas across the curriculum.

**Reading** Reading is a vital skill across the entire curriculum and we continue to encourage every child to note their reading in their individual records. We request that children read to an adult at home every day (or as often as possible!) and have their reading records signed and in school every day. Over the last term, we have noticed that an area for further development is the children's comprehension and although we are developing these skills in class, they can also be supported at home. As such, we would like to ask that when reading with your child you could help them work on this by asking a few questions about the book they have read e.g. *What does this word/phrase/sentence tell you about the character/setting/mood? How has the author made you feel by writing...? What do you think... means? Why do you think that? Why do you think...? When/where is this story set? How do you know? Which part of the story best describes the setting? What is the main point in this paragraph? What is similar/different about two characters? Can you think of another story with a similar theme?* In addition to these question suggestions, there are also some support materials on our school website or if you have any specific queries or questions, please talk to a member of the Year 3 Team.

**Home Learning** Home learning will continue to be set on a Thursday and is due to be returned to your child's class teacher the following Tuesday. If you are unsure of the task, you can always check our homework page, which can be found on the 'Pupils' tab on our school website. All tasks are designed to take approximately 20 minutes and will alternate between a grammar and a MyMaths task. MyMaths is an online resource but paper copies can be given if internet access is an issue – please don't forget your child's log on details are in their reading record!

**Mental Maths** Mathematical fluency and understanding are key areas of our curriculum; through our 'Magician's Guild' this term we will be focusing on  $\times / \div$  facts in the 3, 4 and 8 times tables. We will also focus on learning number bonds to 100. A test will continue to take place weekly. As always, we appreciate your support to help your child learn their number bonds and times tables fluently. Speed and accuracy are vital! There are lots of fun online games to support this recall so please just ask if you need any suggestions.

**Spelling** All children will be given weekly spellings on a **Tuesday** to practice at home, these lists have been formulated in line with the National Curriculum spelling expectations for our year group. The children will be taught the spelling rule in class to promote understanding of how it works and how to apply the rule. Each **Monday**, the children will be tested to check their understanding and identify areas for improvement.

We are all looking forward to the Spring Term which is sure to be an exciting one. If at any point you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Mrs Courtney  
Year 3 Team Leader  
& Class Teacher

Miss Porter  
Year 3 Class Teacher

Miss Murray  
Year 3 Class Teacher

 Parental Engagement  
Quality Standard

