



Monday 6th January 2020

Alder Class – New Year, New Decade and New Term

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very Happy New Year to you and your family! I hope that you all had a relaxing and fun-filled Christmas holiday, hopefully with some time to relax between the festivities, and are ready for all that 2020 brings. Alder Class have begun the Spring Term today by reflecting back on the Autumn Term and then thinking about what we would like to achieve in 2020 – personally, socially and academically. While this is a busy term in Year Six, with focused English and Maths work in order for each pupil to achieve their individual targets as well as to prepare for the SATs in May, we endeavour to maintain our balanced curriculum.

We will spend the first two weeks continuing with our World War II Topic. Thank you for the family documents and accounts sent in during last half-term. We will be using these over the next fortnight; I will return all of these loaned items after this time. Alder Class then begin their new topic, *Pole to Pole*, learning about *Shackleton's Journey* as well as comparing and contrasting the Arctic and Antarctica. Please find the new Topic Web attached and encourage your child to find out more about the race to the poles as well as these two icy desert regions.

Homework and Reading

I was *wowed* throughout the Autumn Term by the homework handed in – there was a huge amount of effort put into homework which was of an incredibly high standard – thank you for supporting your child with their homework. Alder Class have been given their new homework web today. **A reminder that one task from the homework web is to be completed every week, and handed in on a Tuesday** – the first homework task is to be handed in on Tuesday the 13th January. The tasks are not all in-depth to allow time for spellings and timetables practice as well as regular 10-minute revision using their *SATs Buster Books* (no more than 10 minutes in an evening). Each pupil has also been given a homework diary to teach them organisational skills ahead of High School expectations. Homework diaries and SATs Buster books should go home and come back to school *every day*. Please do continue to help your child to manage their time, with any research and revision while also ensuring they are **reading daily**. Please do ensure that reading is a natural part of the day's routine at home. Also please check and sign your child's Reading Record. It would be invaluable to read with your child and to talk about what you have read together.



P.E. and LOfC Kit

P.E. will take place twice a week and both sessions will be indoors this half-term. Your child will need to have their full P.E. kit, including tracksuit bottoms (joggers). **Please do ensure that your child has a change of socks and sturdy outdoor trainers at school daily.** LOfC lessons will be woven into various lessons and, as such, all LOfC kit and a pair of Wellies, needs to be at school every day, left on their coat peg for the half-term.

I look forward to a half-term of focused work and good progress in Alder Class. If you have any questions or concerns then please do not hesitate to contact me. Also, any questions or cries for 'help!' from either your child or yourself when working through the SATs Buster Books can be jotted down in their revision book or written on a post-it note, ready to ask me in class.

Kind regards,

Mrs Dafforn

Alder Class Teacher

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