



Harwell Community Primary School

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8th January 2019

Dear Families,

Happy New Year to you all! We hope that you have had a wonderful festive season together. We are very much looking forward to a new and fresh term.

As there is more emphasis on spelling in the national curriculum, the children will continue to take a spelling test each week on Friday so we would appreciate your support in helping the children learn them. They can continue using the strategies used last term, or find new ones!

This term we will be learning about performing! We'll be focusing on poems about play, evaluating best strategies for performance and writing our own before analysing *The Jabberwocky* by Lewis Carroll. This leads into performing our poems locally at Orchard House. In addition, Y5 have been invited to enter a poetry recital competition later in the term. External judges will come in to view the performances and those selected will be invited to the final held at Didcot Civic Centre. Dates are yet to be confirmed but it is likely to be in early March. Anyone wishing to enter this competition needs to find a poem (no longer than 40 lines), discuss/understand/share ideas with you at home and preferably learn it. The first performance will be to share with the class. Participants need to be ready by **Monday 4th February** so that we have time to discuss and enjoy them together. If you have difficulty in sourcing a poem, there is a class library which the children are welcome to use and share at home so please encourage the children to use this resource as well as any home books, the library or indeed the internet. If they wish to write their own poem they are welcome to do so.

The children will be choosing their maths homework this term, as usual, this will be given out on Fridays and expected to be completed by the following Friday morning, please. In lessons, we'll be starting off with perimeter and area, followed by a quick recap on multiplication and division before focusing on fractions for the rest of the term. In preparation for next term, it would be helpful, for your child, if you would please practise reading the time as often as possible (analogue and digital if possible). Obviously those that have not learned all their times tables need to continue this process at home, this will definitely be the best way to support your child with the maths they need to know for Y5 and beyond.

This term, we would like to invite you to share our work on **Friday 15 February at 9.15 am** for our topic outcome.

PE will continue to be on Thursday afternoons in the hall, so please ensure your child has their

PE kit in school for these sessions including a named pair of trainers.

Thank you so much to those of you who have managed to donate 2 litre plastic bottles – all will be revealed at our outcome! As always, we'd like to thank you for your continuing support and ask that you either come to see either of us in the playground or contact me through the school office should you need to.

Kind regards,

Mrs Martin and Mrs Addison