



**Harwell Community Primary School**

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Dear Families

Welcome back! We're really looking forward to another fun-filled term of learning.

Our project this term is *Muck, Mines and Misery* which focuses on the history of the Victorian era along with electricity as our science. Your child may have told you about crawling through tunnels on our first day back, eating jelly babies and discovering what makes a lightbulb light up! Randomly shout out to your child; wire, battery, buzz, bulb and switch and see what happens! The Victorian and electricity themes also run through our literacy with our book

'Cogheart' by Peter Bunzl.

In maths we will be spending time on securing times tables that we've already learned (2, 5, 10, 3, 4, 8, 6, 11) and learning 7 and 9's. The new national test for times tables that comes into Year 4 is creeping nearer and nearer and I have previously sent comprehensive information (including websites/links/activities) for you regarding this. Working together will get the best results so we really appreciate any support you can offer at home to not only master the times tables but to help increase their speed as the criteria is to respond within 6 seconds. Our main focus this term will be fractions.

Please ensure your child has their PE kit each week. Our usual PE day is Thursdays. This term we are doing circuits.

Your child should continue to bring in their reading record every day with a reading book. We endeavour to provide time for reading every day and would love for anyone at home to spend 5 minutes listening and discussing too please. We are also lucky enough to have 2 volunteer readers each week. If any of you wish to do this please speak to me or Jane in the office.

As we have completed the national curriculum spellings for Year 3/4, we will focus on commonly misspelt words after working through our etymology spellings (understanding that some of our vocabulary comes from a variety of languages).

As our project continues next term, incorporating High Ash, there won't be an outcome until after the residential.

Our cake stall is on Friday 27 March.

If you have anything you need to ask or to pass onto me, please see me in the playground or send an email to the office.

Thank you for your continued support in our learning.

Mrs Martin