

St. John's C of E Primary School



Topaz Newsletter

Spring Term

January 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

Our New Topic

Happy New Year and Happy New Topic! This term's theme is '**AMAZING ANIMALS**' we will be learning about different groups and types of animals –including humans! In **English** we will be reading and writing **stories, instructions** and **information texts**. We will also continue our daily phonics sessions which helps with all aspects of reading & writing. In **Maths** we will be counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and the Year 2s will be practising their tables. We will be improving our **addition & subtraction** using **money** and learning about **shape** and **time**.

Reading Practice

The most valuable reading practice comes from **individual reading with you at home**. PLEASE try to put aside at least 5 or 10 minutes reading time each day as it all adds up to make a huge difference to your child's confidence and progress throughout the year. Don't forget to include a quick comment in your child's **Reading Diary** each time they read (eg 'Read up to page 7.' 'Read confidently' 'Needed help') **Many thanks** to the parents who already regularly support their children's reading at home, we really appreciate your support and it is a pleasure to see the progress your children are making :-)

Guided Reading

Your child will read with an adult in school at least once a week during our daily Guided Reading Sessions but we may not be able to hear all children read individually. However we understand that the children who read regularly at home (Thank you again!) will need to change their books regularly. If your child requires a new book, **please write in their Reading Diary and remind them to leave it in the book basket when school starts**.

Homework, Library Books & P.E

Homework is sent home **each Friday**, please ensure your child returns it by the following **THURSDAY** otherwise they have to complete it during choosing time or Playtime which they don't like to miss! Library books should be brought back to school every **Wednesday**.

P.E. is still **Mondays** and **Wednesdays** and the children should have their **named** P.E. kit (black shorts, white T-shirt and black pumps) in school for these days or they may miss out. Earrings should be removed or covered on P.E. days as even studs can catch on clothing as children get changed.

BIG Bags and small cloakroom

Many thanks to all those who now send PE kits in a **drawstring pumpbag** with anything else in their **book-bag** to go in their tray. However, we still have a problem with children bringing bags that are far too BIG for our very small cloakroom as any bag larger than a standard pump bag is too wide to fit the peg. All big bags have to be kept separately in a box which is not easily accessible and wastes time if children need to access it during the day.

Our Blog

Don't forget to visit our blog (web log) for weekly updates on what we have been doing in class each week – find us at <https://blog.seesaw.me/topaz19> but please don't share the details on social media.

.....And finally, if you have any questions or concerns, or there is anything you need us to know that might affect your child's learning, please do not hesitate to contact me 😊