Hello and welcome to ...



WOODPECKER CLASS

Meet the Teacher

MEET THE TEAM!





Mr Heelas - Class Teacher

Mrs Venn- Classroom Teaching Assistant



Mr Atkins and Mrs Harris -Support Staff

ABOUT ME



My name is Mr Heelas and I will be responsible for educating your children for this academic year!



My mission as a teacher is to immerse children each day into experiences whereby learning and enjoyment are the primary drivers in the classroom.

CONTINUED



I am a firm believer in resolving matters (however big or small) as guickly as possible. Please present your question/concern to me at the earliest convenience and I will try my best to schedule a meeting regarding the matter.



Woodpeckers have indoor PE on a Tuesday and outdoor PE on a Wednesday.

Please ensure Woodpeckers have the correct PE kit in school and named. White t-shirt and black shorts. Plain jogging bottoms and top for winter months.

YEAR 4'S TOPICS





Autumn Term -Ancient Egypt



Spring Term -Stone Age to Iron Age



Summer Term -Raging Rivers



READING IS THE GATEWAY SKILL THAT MAKES ALL OTHER LEARNING POSSIBLE

BARACK OBAMA

PICTURE QUOTES . com

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SCHOOL READING CHALLENGE

Alongside our class reading challenge, Woodpeckers also have a whole school reading rocket reward booklet. This is an excellent way to encourage your child to read while reaping the rewards at school, and beyond!

If a Woodpecker reads, and records it in their reading diary, four times or more in a week, they receive a star in their rocket challenge log. The aim is to earn enough stars to reach a planet certificate!

They also become a Reading Ruler on the Friday for a whole day. Being a reading ruler gives them access to many privileges and is definitely worth it!





MOORLANDS GLOBAL CHALLENGE PASSPORT

- To help motivate your child to learn and progress through their basic number skills, they will given a maths passport. When a continent in the passport challenge is achieved, certificates are sent home. This serves as an opportunity for your child to celebrate their successes both at school and home. Why not challenge them to a 'Times Table off'?!
- This system also provides your child's current (and future) teacher with an accurate record of your child's progress as they travel up the school.
- Each child has a unique login for Times Table Rockstar's. This is an encouraging and fun platform whereby children are able to test and develop their multiplication skills. This is particularly paramount in Year 4 since they will be participating in the Government's multiplication skills test this year.





THE Y4 MULTIPLICATION CHECK



- The Multiplication Tables Check 2023 is a statutory, short online assessment that tests how well year 4 children can recall times tables facts up to 12 x 12.
- In total, the test has 25 questions and three practice questions.
- Children have six seconds to answer each question. Between each question, there's a gap of three seconds. Children will be given the chance to answer 3 practice questions before the check begins.
- Checks can commence from Monday 9 June, and must be completed by Friday 30 June 2023.
- Although there is no official pass mark, we are aiming for all children to answer at least 20 questions correctly.
- We will strive to mirror the achievement's of last year's percentage of being above average among other Southampton scores.



In primary school, times tables knowledge is vital for quick mental maths calculations and problem solving, as well as for many of the skills children learn in years 5 and 6 (division, fractions, percentages). HOW CAN YOU HELP PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR THE MTC?



- Alongside myself, your support in helping your child practice the times tables plays a pivotal role in the lead up to the MTC and the score they get.
- There is an abundance of free, enjoyable, online and offline, activities for your child (and others) to take part in.
- Here are some recommendations...

OFFLINE ACTIVITIES/COMPETITIONS

- Singing/Chanting Times Table songs from YouTube.
- Times Table Cowboy Showdown.
- Roll the Dice and multiply the two numbers.
- Times Table Bingo
- Creating a poster for a tricky TT.
- Making up ridiculous rhymes to facilitate long-term-memory of tricker TT.



ONLINE GAMES/COMPETITIONS

- Times Table Tennis (ICTgames.com)
- Hit the button (Topmarks.com)
- Tommy's Trek (Topmarks.com)
- Maths Frame Multiplication Check (mathsframe.co.uk)
- Times Table Rockstars. Each child has a unique login which will be handed out on Friday along with homework. A super fun platform where children can earn coins for playing different times tables games. These coins can then be spent on customising their avatar!



HOMEWORK AND READING DIARIES

Homework is set every Friday, and due in the following Thursday.

The expectation is that reading diaries must be brought into school every Thursday, as they are recorded onto a reading tracker. Children will then receive their reading diary on a Friday along with homework.

Please can all Woodpeckers also have their reading diaries in their bags daily for reading at school.



"I've missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed."

~ Michael Jordan

THE POWER OF A GROWTH MINDSET

I am a strong advocate of recognising and publicising children's hard efforts towards their learning.

As a result of this, adopting a growth mindset is something I will be striving to engrave into your children. It is vital that they are well-equipped for the future, especially in relation to viewing challenges and mistakes as opportunities to learn from.

One of the best ways we can remind children to persevere and resist giving up after experiencing a setback is to use the word "yet".

It's not always easy, but the power of this small word paves the way for developing a .



I can learn anything I want to. When I'm frustrated, I persevere. I want to challenge myself. When I fail, I learn. Tell me I try hard. If you succeed, I'm inspired. My effort and attitude determine everything.



I'm either good at it, or I'm not. When I'm frustrated, I give up. I don't like to be challenged. When I fail, I'm no good. Tell me I'm smart. If you succeed, I feel threatened. My abilities determine everything.

TEACHER- PARENT COLLABORATION

A perfect blend of teacher and parental involvement in a child's education is one of the biggest contributors to their success.

How can parents aid the enhancement of their child's achievement in school?

- Establish a place and time at home for homework.
- Regularly testing your child on their times tables (car/walk/after dinner game)
- Promote literacy by reading to your child and by reading yourself.
- Research shows having subtitles on in the same language as the TV show or film improves children's reading skills.
- Express high expectations and standards for your child's learning.
- Acknowledge your child's education as a high-status.



That concludes our Meet the Teacher session.

I hope this has given you an insight into the expectations and event of the year.

Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to attend.

Questions?