



January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you had an enjoyable holiday period.

Learning

In **English** we will be starting the term by finishing reading *Fortunately the Milk* by Neil Gaiman. We will then move on to reading *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo and *Varjack Paw* by SF Said. We will be focusing on writing to entertain (narrative).

In **Reading** the children will continue with whole-class reading lessons. We will be exploring a range of texts with the children, including *Casey the Container* by Kristina Bowden, a non-fiction text about Naples, *The Man Who Bought a Mountain* and *The Unforgotten Coat* by Frank Cottrell Boyce.



In **Maths** we are starting the term with a unit on exploring multiplication and division in depth, focusing on children's understanding and reasoning. We will then move on to learning about co-ordinates and time. Throughout the term, we will have weekly lessons revisiting our times tables to ensure children know all of their facts up to 12x12 fluently.

The game <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> is a free and engaging recommended app.

Our **Science** topic will be states of matter and the children will learn about solids, liquids and gases and take part in a range of practical enquiries exploring melting, freezing, evaporation and condensation. They will then learn about the water cycle and its' impact.

This term years 2 to 6 will all be teaching a geography unit. We have redesigned our geography curriculum this year, and we will soon be able to share with you the new "Knowledge Organiser" for our unit of learning. You can read more about this in the WHPS Weekly published on 24th January. Year 4's unit is **Ports and Trade**, and will involve learning about the important ports of Liverpool, Naples and Rotterdam.

You can find out more about all of our school curriculum by visiting the "[Our Curriculum > Y1 to Y6 curriculum](#)" section on the new school website.

Home Learning

We will continue to send homework each Friday.

| Spelling Homework Set | Spelling Quiz |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Friday | Friday |



The children will bring home:

- 10 spellings to practise at home
- Handwriting

Your child also receives weekly maths homework on Mathletics. We encourage every child to aim to earn 1000 points each week, which is recognised by a certificate in achievement assembly on a Wednesday. Your child's log in details are in the back of their reading record.

In addition to weekly homework, we expect all children to read for at least 15-20 minutes each day. Reading is a fundamental part of the children's development and it has a positive impact on comprehension skills, writing, maths and many other subjects. Children should complete their reading records to evidence the reading they have done and bring these to school every day where they will be checked by your child's teacher. The children will also earn stickers on their bookmark every time they read which will result in certificates and even brand new books to keep!

Uniform and PE Lessons

Make-up and jewellery, with the exception of stud ear-rings and a watch are not allowed. All children are expected to wear full school uniform at all times. PE for Year 4 will be on a Monday. Seine will be going swimming every Monday afternoon for the first half of the year and Danube class for the second half (after the February half term holiday). Children will need to come to school wearing a PE kit and a pair of trainers.

Music

This term, the children will start their recorder lessons. These will take place every **Thursday**. Please ensure your child brings their recorder to school every week. There are links on our Google Classroom to the music we are learning so that the children can practice at home.

Healthy School

West Hampstead Primary School is a healthy school. Please help us by providing a **healthy packed lunch**. You may also send in a **fruit portion** for children to eat at snack time. Your child should also bring in a **water bottle** every day. We will celebrate birthdays with a class birthday song and 'Happy Birthday' stickers. Please do not send in sweets or cake.

General Expectations

We would like to remind you that school and learning starts at **9:00**. The gates will be open at 8:50. The school day ends at 3:30.

We look forward to continuing working with both you and your children. If you should have any general questions regarding the year ahead, please do not hesitate to contact us through

year4@westhampstead.camden.sch.uk

Sophie Keating, Louise Kwa and Olivia Cooper