

KS1 Spring 1 Newsletter

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential to ensure uninterrupted progress and to enable children to exceed their potential. We actively involve the children in achieving this by holding weekly assemblies with a reward for each class who has 100% attendance. Certificates are awarded termly and yearly for all children who achieve 100%. With these rewards in place, the children wholeheartedly strive to be part of the winning class and the support of each other is a pleasure to see; please support your child and ensure they are regular attenders.

Well done to the following children who had 100% attendance last half term:

Chloe, Lucy, Freya, Connor, Brooke B, Lloyd, Elliott

Good attendance is important because: your child needs to be in the academy to be able to learn and achieve; lessons are taught in a sequence and it can be difficult to catch up if a lesson is missed; children need to have relationships with others and to form lasting friendships; it develops a child's confidence to attempt new work and to work alongside others. Cloe,

Pupil Reward Points

Being in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing!

The reward scheme allows children to earn points for showing 'Green Behaviour' which may consist of trying hard in their work, being courteous and polite (possibly holding a door open), showing respect to others, arriving at school on time for registration and having the correct uniform. Children also earn 5 points if they are picked to celebrate their 'good work' in the Friday celebration assembly. Children additionally earn points through job roles, the wage of points is preparing children for their later life.

Children save points and spend them at the academy Swap Shop.
Pop in to see what your child could spend their points on.



Writing

Our focus text this half term is 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers. We will be looking at a range of text types; including stories, letter writing and reports.

There is **an additional** 20 minute phonics session four times a week.

We also have a daily guided reading session in which children do a range of activities such as focused work with the teacher, comprehension, phonics tasks and the use of ICT.

Your child has a home reading book. This book is appropriate for the level your child is secure at and is classed as an 'easy read' to give them confidence and help with their comprehension. We ask for you to write a comment in your child's reading journal based on how they read and find the text. Reading books are changed every Thursday.



Maths

We have a daily Maths session and a short mental maths session. Children will be focusing on the following areas over this half term: addition and subtraction using numbers to 20.

It is really important that children develop a good grasp of mental maths and develop these skills. We encourage lots of counting activities and practical work involving numbers. KS1 children should be able to count on and back in steps of 1, 2, 3, 5 and 10. This builds a strong foundation for the multiplication and division facts. Therefore this is always a really good thing to practise with your children, to support them with their maths at home.

Maths is also taught through the Topic and children will enjoy using and applying their maths skills to solve problems during the afternoon sessions.



At The Movies.....

This term our topic will be at the movies. As part of our topic learning we will be focussing heavily on Science and the children will be making circuits, classifying animals and looking at changing states e.g. solids, liquids and gases. We will be using Disney and Pixar films as inspiration for our group topic pages and would love for you to come and see what we have been up to later in the term!

Reward Trip Expectations

To qualify for the end of term reward trips pupils need to achieve the following standards:

Read, at home, 4 times a week.

Homework must be completed. Children will be given the opportunity to complete homework at dinner times. A specific homework club is being run on a Wednesday dinnertime to provide opportunities for children unable to complete their homework at home.

Less than 10 lates per term. Children arriving from 9.00 and after will receive a late mark. Children arriving after 9.15 am will be recorded as absent.

Children must show consistent green behaviour and receive no more than 3 red cards in the term.

P.E. / Sport

PE



The Ladybirds PE lessons will take place on a Thursday (indoor) and Tuesday (outdoor). The Lions PE lessons will take place on a Tuesday (indoor) and a Thursday (outdoor). The children will have the opportunity to work outside for PE once a week so we ask that you send suitable footwear and suitable outdoor PE kit as the weather turns colder. Any children who have their ears pierced must have them covered or removed for PE. Please send your child with something for them to cover their ears with e.g. medical tape or plasters.



Homework

Homework will be set each week.

It will consist of:

- Maths homework which will be handed out on a Friday and collected in the following Thursday.
- Spellings to be practised in preparation for a weekly spelling test every Friday.
- Reading: each child will have their own reading book, which they will need to practise at home.
- Big Writing- 'Talk homework' Children will have the opportunity to discuss their ideas with adults at home.



Reading

To promote *reading for pleasure*, we have reinstated Bug Club !

Bug Club is a fantastic online resource that allows reading to be interactive and exciting. It takes children on a personalised reading journey where the only limits are their imaginations. Not only does it allow children to read a range of books online, but it also delivers comprehension style questioning to promote children's understanding of the books that they have read.

All children should have been provided with usernames and passwords for the website. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher if you require another copy.

www.activelearnprimary.co.uk

Hint! Reading on Bug Club also counts as 'a read' in the children's Home Reading Journal.



Clubs

Clubs will begin again week commencing 11th January. Please encourage your child to participate in as many as possible. If your child would like to suggest a club that is not currently running, please send them to see Mrs Leslie.

Remember to keep up to date with us!

follow us on
 @Estcourty1 @EstcourtYear1
@Estcourtprimary

Blog: estcourtprimary.net

The children love having comments left on the blog. A huge thank you to all of the parents that have been doing so over the last term. Please continue to develop your child's writing for a purpose by encouraging them to write from home.

Website:
<http://www.estcourtprimary.org.uk>

Purple Mash

We encourage the children to use Purple Mash. It is a learning tool which supports learning through fun games relating to Computing, History, Geography, Science, Maths, Literacy as well as PSHE and Celebrations and Faiths. **Access to Purple Mash is easy, there is a quick link on the academy website, in the Useful Links and Homework Help websites section.**

Children have been provided with a log in and password, if you have any queries about Purple Mash, please ask your child's teacher.