

Snowy Owls: Information for Parents

2017/2018



Teacher: Mr John Key
Assistant Teacher: Mrs Karen Merry



We would like to take this opportunity to welcome your child back to their new class and very much look forward to working together to build a partnership that will enable your child to do their very best during this year at Hambleton. The final years at Primary School are especially important as your child prepares for that big step into High School. We have found that children do their best when you are actively involved and interested in what they do at school. Your involvement might range from talking to them about what they have been doing, to reading with them, helping with homework, or even coming into school to work with your own or other children. If you have any questions about what you can do to help your children, please ask and we will do what we can to assist.

Curriculum: We work hard to produce a dynamic and stimulating curriculum and have been pleased to be given positive feedback from the children. They have a varied timetable which challenges and supports them across the full range of subjects. English and Maths are taught on a daily basis whilst other subjects are usually taught weekly, using a thematic approach whenever appropriate.

Maths will continue to be taught in year groups. For this term the staffing is as follows: Y5 Mr Key; Y4 Miss Haigh. The pupils are taught using the Singapore Maths approach (Maths No Problem scheme). Regular practise of instant recall facts such as times tables, and concepts such as time that you can do with your child to support their learning will be greatly appreciated.

Snowy Owls will take part this year in the Wider Opportunities Programme for Music (WOP) - a fantastic opportunity for the pupils. This will take place on Friday mornings. Please help your child to take great care of any instruments and folders that they are given and remind them to bring in these every Friday.

Visits: Although there may be others planned during the year, the main focus will be our annual residential visits. These are scheduled as follows: 18-20 April Y3/Y4 (The National Forest); 23-25 May Y5/Y6 (The Sill at Hadrian's Wall).

Equipment: The school will provide all the equipment that your child will need to use, however many children like to have their own pencil case. If they do bring one to school, we ask that it should be small!



Link Books: All children will be issued with a booklet which we have called 'The Link'. This booklet will be used as one of our means of Home/School communication. If you have a message then please ask your child to show this to Mr Key or Mrs Merry when they arrive at school.

Playtime fruit/drink: Your child has been provided with their own water bottle which needs to be taken home each night to be washed - a hydrated brain is an active one so we encourage the children to drink plenty throughout the day. Many children bring a fruit snack for playtime - if your child does not then please re-consider this since they will be having no energy intake from breakfast until lunch and clearly cannot be performing to their potential. Please note that other playtime snacks are not permitted.





PE/ Games: PE days vary, depending upon weather and coaching staff. Pupils will need to wear red t-shirt and black shorts. For outdoor games the children may also wear additional warm clothing suitable for the activity - appropriate footwear (trainers or boots) and a change of socks are also necessary. No jewellery should be worn for health and safety reasons, and earrings should be removed. If your child cannot remove their own, it would be helpful if they were to leave them at home on days when they know they are doing physical activities. If children have just had their ears pierced and should not remove them until healed, we can make temporary arrangements for them to cover over them with tape if they bring some adhesive plasters or alternative (please write a request in your child's link book).

For the start of the Autumn Term the planned PE is: Wednesdays (games) and Thursdays (gymnastics).



Homework: Homework information will be given out throughout the year. Please can children continue to practise reading, spellings and times tables/ division facts on a weekly basis at home, as well as consolidating their ongoing learning in class. Other homework tasks are optional, but they will complement and further enhance the learning that is taking place in class.

Renaissance Home Connect: Renaissance Home Connect is a tool that connects the school and home to keep parents informed of their child's progress toward Accelerated Reader targets and encourages the child to practice reading at home.

- You can view your child's progress towards reading targets and reader certification, and view all books that your child has read and quizzes your child has taken.

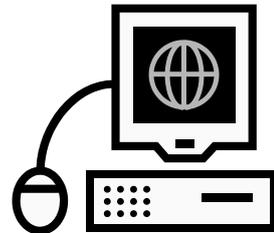
- You can access an online search tool, AR BookFinder, to search for books using various criteria, including author, subject or reading level.

- You can receive emails that show the results for Reading Practice Quizzes and Vocabulary Practice Quizzes and provide links to a Website where you can check progress.

The Web address for Renaissance Home Connect is:

<https://ukhosted1.renlearn.co.uk/1894048/HomeConnect/Login.aspx>

The same login and password that your child uses at school will work at home.



We look forward to a positive partnership between home and school this year, so that together we can strive to make this a happy and successful one for your child.