

# Welcome to Thomas Hardy Class

September 2018

Hello!

My name is Mrs. Killick and I teach the children in Thomas Hardy Class. Our class is supported, at various times throughout the day, by a team of fantastic teaching assistants.

I would love to meet and get to know you all! I am generally available briefly before or after school for informal chats, or can arrange for a longer meeting if necessary. Please feel free to talk to me, as it is through the teamwork of school and home that your children learn and flourish.



Children may come into school from 8:30am, when the school bus arrives. They are encouraged to sort out their own belongings - putting book bags in the correct book box, water bottles in the box, lunch boxes on the trolley and coats in the cloak room. They then will need to go out to play until the bell rings. On a wet morning, activities will be available in the classroom for children to do.



The school bells goes at 8:45am. Children are expected to be here by this time. When the bell goes the children will line up in the playground and then be invited to come into the classroom and sit on the carpet, ready for the days learning to begin.



Reading at home with your child continues to be of the utmost importance. We encourage you to read with your child as often as possible - 5 minutes daily is far more effective than 20 minutes once a week.

Understanding what they are reading (comprehension) is also very important.

It is very helpful if you can discuss what your child has read:

- \* What are their thoughts about the book? Do they like it?
- \* What do they think the character might do next?
- \* What do certain words mean?
- \* Why do they think certain things happened?

One of the best ways to encourage enjoyment of reading is to read a book together!



In school children are heard to read individually and sometimes as part of a guided group by Mrs. Killick, other school staff and our dedicated team of volunteer readers, all who have had in-school training and are very competent. The children's reading will be supported and assessed constantly during lesson time and also individually.



Phonics learning will continue from their learning in Reception or Year 1. The children will be grouped for Phonics according to the Phase which they are working within. In Year 2, phonics will not only concentrate on learning sounds but also specific spellings, tricky words (which can't be sounded out) and spelling rules (for example taking away the 'y' in words like cry before adding 'ied'). The children enjoy learning these through the Oxford Owl Spelling Zone.



The children will bring home a list of words to practice for a spelling test. This list enables us to share with you, and help to reinforce, the new sounds, spelling rules and tricky words that they have been learning in school. It also gives the children the opportunity to read, use and spell these words more enabling them to progress in their reading and writing. During the test the words will be read out for your child to write down.



In Year 2 the children will be continuing to learn about multiplication and division in a practical way but there will also be a greater emphasis on learning their tables. The children will begin by learning their 2 times table in and out of order. We will then move on to 10's and 5's.

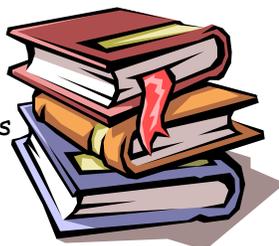
The children will be doing PE on a Friday afternoon and at other times during the week so it is important that they have their kit in school every day. Please ensure that all items are clearly labelled. Please also include a spare pair of socks, especially if girls are wearing tights to school. Warm clothes would also be beneficial for outdoor PE.



### Our learning this term...

#### Literacy -

- Stories with familiar settings
- Stories from a variety of cultures
- Labels, lists, signs and posters
- Information texts
- Songs and repetitive poems
- Animal poems



#### Numeracy -

- Number & place value
- Addition & subtraction
- Time
- Properties of shape
- Length & height
- Position & direction
- Fractions
- Multiplication & division



#### ~ Spellings and phonics quiz~ Monday

Listening to music, exploring our voices and creating our own music

Developing art & design techniques and looking at the work of artists & designers

#### Our Topic this term

How did explorers find out about our world?

Pirates and Boats ≈ Polar Explorers

Oceans and Continents



Planning, making & evaluating boats



UK weather patterns  
Compass directions, positions & routes on a map  
Hot & cold countries  
North & South poles  
The Equator  
Geographical features  
The worlds continents & oceans

RE:

Is it possible to be kind all of the time?  
Jesus' life in the Gospels

Ernest Shackleton -

Exploring a significant individual beyond living memory

On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September after school, I will holding a short information session about learning in Thomas Hardy Class. This is for parents who would like more information about their child's learning and it will be a great opportunity to ask questions.