



# Singleton Church of England Primary School



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Head teacher: Mrs. Amanda Clayton

Dear Class 2,

Welcome back! Hoping you all had a lovely Easter break and are ready for a new term. I am absolutely delighted to have all my children back together and I hope we have another successful final term.

Our intention is to make this new term an exciting one, full of learning whilst keeping everyone safe. Therefore, can we remind you that we are happy for your child/children to bring in their own pencil case, to include (a pencil, rubber, sharpener, pencil crayons, glue stick etc).

Our PE day is on a **Wednesday** and we will be swimming this term, **they should come into school on Wednesday's ready with their swimming kit.** Please include a towel and goggles (if required). Girls must have a swimming cap.

**\* All earrings must be taken out before the PE day.** Children must not wear earrings for swimming. If your child cannot remove their earrings, they will take a non-active role in the PE lesson. Staff cannot remove earrings for your child.

## **School Timetable:**

The school timetable will be packed full of wonderful, enriched opportunities to learn and we look forward to lots of fun ahead. We have returned to a full curriculum timetable for the new school year, with lots of exciting topics and chances to engage and learn new skills to ensure that we have a broad and balanced curriculum.

## **Snacks and drinks**

Children are allowed to bring a snack to school for morning playtime. Please ensure this snack is a healthy fruit option. Water bottles should also be brought to school – children will have access to these throughout the day.

## Birthdays

We no longer allow children to bring in treats on their birthday. As always, when it is a child's birthday this is highlighted in class and everyone will sing 'Happy Birthday' to them, but we will not be allowing sweets, cakes etc to be brought in and given out. This is due to a number of food allergies throughout school. We hope you understand the reasons behind this decision.

**Literacy:** As ever, a strong emphasis will be placed on re-visiting and developing key skills in reading, writing and SPAG. Handwriting and spellings are equally important and should be practised. Spelling lists will be given out each Friday (starting Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April) and tested the following week. This term we will also continue to use our fabulous scheme of work, where we will be focusing on a 'Teach through a text approach'. This term the children will have the opportunity to look at **Prequels – How to Live Forever** by Colin Thompson: writing lost posters, letter of warnings, character and setting descriptions and instructions. **Then Non Fiction: The story of Tutankhamun** by Patricia Cleveland-Peck. **Followed by Narrative poems- Jim, a Cautionary tale by Hilaire Belloc.** Writing warning posters, alternative endings, performance poetry and letters of apology.

**Numeracy:** In Numeracy we will be working hard again in all areas of basic Maths, focusing on addition/ subtraction, multiplication/ division, fractions, time, areas and shape. Children will be working towards securing and applying basic skills and applying their knowledge to mental maths and challenges. As previously mentioned, I would encourage all children to practise daily their times tables and extend their knowledge to corresponding division facts ready for tests. Daily Ten, Rockstars, Squeebles and Purple Mash are ideal for this at home. Your support at home with homework or extra work is always appreciated.

**Year 4 children** will work towards the Government test in June. The Purple Mash test replicates the test style and questions and therefore is an ideal tool for children to use at home as often as possible.

**Science:** Our new Topic is exploring types of nappies and completing a nappy challenge. Asking questions: What else do we want to know about a disposable nappy? Which nappy is the most absorbent and which elastic stretches the furthest? Then after half term looking at, 'The big build'. Exploring bridges and asking, which shape is the strongest for bridge pillars and having fun building spaghetti towers.

**Topic:** Geography unit on, 'Coasts'. Looking at the coasts of the British Isles and exploring the advantages and disadvantages of living by the coast and how much it's changed. In the second half of the term, we will explore Local history. The children will investigate their local area, and consider which buildings are of significance and should be preserved.

**RE:** We will continue to follow the Diocese plans and units on; Jesus- exploring Rules for living-asking the question which rules should we follow? Followed by the unit, what is prayer? Finally extending our knowledge and asking, how people of world faiths pray?

**PHSE:** We will continue to follow the Coram Education Scheme in PHSE; Being my best and growing and changing. This unit talks about body changes, a letter will follow. In addition, the children will continue to follow the new school initiative MyHappyMind.

**Music:** We will begin this half term looking at Kapow's scheme of work exploring, Penatonic melodies and compositions. Followed by adapting and supporting motifs. We will also be starting the fantastic journey for our school summer panto after half term. The year 3 and 4 children will be asked to join in and sing along within our yearly production.

**ICT:** Using our resource Purple Mash, learning about Internet Safety and reputations and managing our online information and sending and receiving emails. Followed by branching databases, health, well-being and lifestyle. Explain how technology could be a distraction and learning how to limit technology time.

**French:** The children will be continuing to follow our fabulous French Programme on Kapow and focus on the unit, 'Bon Appetit'. Learning through songs and games and moving on to shopping for French foods.

**ART:** Art will be focused on painting and mixed media, diving into prehistoric paintings and creating our own masterpieces.

**Fantastic Friday's.** DT the children will explore Electrical systems and Cross stitching and learn Lego education through the Lego WeDo set.

#### **Important information Recap:**

- Book Changing day is **MONDAY**. In addition, each child will have the opportunity to visit the school library.

## Homework

Homework is a vital element of the children's continued learning from school, in consolidating and practicing what is being taught in the classroom. We really need you to support us with this, as that partnership with you is vital in order to be consistent and united in our expectations. Therefore, we ask you to encourage your children to undertake and complete homework tasks in order to promote:

- good attitude to work
- self-esteem and a sense of achievement
- improved standards of performance

We value the support you give to your children through discussion of their homework and would especially ask you to ensure that your child has the time and environment in which to work undisturbed. We ask that you ensure that your child completes their homework each week.

Online homework will be set every Friday on 'My Maths'. Homework should be completed within one week (please remember to call in if any concerns). In addition, I would ask that all children **read at least 3 times a week**. Children are free to change their books, when necessary, although this is usually done on Mondays. Some children who need extra help with reading will be heard every week and we try to record this in planners. Whatever stage your child is at in reading please encourage reading for enjoyment and understanding and also to help them to develop research skills. Times tables tests and practise will also continue in addition to the above and children will be regularly tested in class.

Homework grid below:



Class	Maximum Time per day spent on homework	Daily homework	Weekly tasks (Please note with IDL and tables you don't have to do it all in one go – you can spread out over the week.)		Homework Given out	Homework due in	Other
2	25 – 35 mins per night	10 mins reading each night	My Maths	20/30mins	Usually Friday's online	Usually Friday's online	Throughout the year the children will also have:-  • Home projects – Information commence this
		(Independent readers at least 3 times a week)	PURPLE MASH – times tables practice Year 4	20 mins	Usually Friday's online	N/A  Just practice for Gov test yr4  However Year 3 can also go on and have a go.	

			Times tables – Rock stars, Hit the button, Topmarks	20 mins	N/A	N/A	summer term
			IDL	20 mins	N/A	N/A	
2			Literacy-spellings	15 mins	Usually Friday's	Usually between Monday-Wednesday or date given	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This might be IDL, home projects or a specific piece of work Literacy/s <b>pellings LCWC and purple mash quiz</b> or SPAG given to the children.</li> </ul>
			Serial Mash	20 mins	Usually Monday's	The following Monday	
<b>Reading book information</b> Books will be changed on <b>Monday's</b>							
<b>Home projects – will take place this term on chosen Charities.</b>							

### Purple Mash

You will be aware that at Singleton we use Purple Mash to support our teaching of the computing curriculum. Purple Mash is a fantastic platform that covers a wide range of subjects from the National Curriculum. This academic year, all pupils in Key Stage two will use Purple Mash for weekly spelling practice and also weekly reading (reading is in addition to their school reading book).

Children's log in details for Purple Mash will be stuck in their reading planner. **Year 4** will also have access to the times table check, this worked well last year and helped them prepare for the Government times tables test at the end of the year.

### Purple Mash - Spellings

Every Friday, children will come home with a 'Look, cover, write and check' sheet to work through. Once completed, they should log on to Purple Mash and complete the corresponding quiz, which will support their learning of the spellings.

The first set of spellings will be given out on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January. Children need to learn them, have completed the Look, cover, write, check sheet and the online quiz by the following Friday, where they will sit a short test in class.

### Serial Mash – Reading

I will be sending out a separate letter which outlines how your child can access our online books.

Every Wednesday your child will be set a chapter from a book to read. They should read the chapter and then answer the online quiz. The children's scores are sent back to my Purple Mash account. Your child can leave a short comment if they wish too.

The first book will be set on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025 for this term.

### Drop off and collection

A reminder that classroom doors open at 8:40am. Please be prompt when dropping off/collecting pupils. Please ensure all children are accompanied by an adult at all times. I am unable to take messages or speak to parents before school, however please do go to the school office if you have an urgent query. I will be available at the end of the school day to speak to at the classroom door if you wish. Alternatively, send an email to the school office and they will forward this on to me.

Thank you for all your support, I am looking forward to another successful year and a wonderful term with your fabulous children.

Many Thanks

**Mrs Millward**  
**Class 2 Teacher**