



Limbrick News



Mrs Crowther

Autumn 1

Welcome back - ready and raring to go for a new term in the juniors.

Reading is a very important part of learning in school as well as at home. I encourage the children to read every single day regardless of ability - this does not always have to be sat down reading to an adult but could just be reading alone for pleasure. You could always check that they have actually read by asking them a few questions about the book. On that point reading at home doesn't always have to be books, reading comics and magazines are just as valuable for the children as it allows them to experience a range of text types. The children will however be given a school reading book as well as having access to the junior library. I do expect the children to change their school reading book a least once a week, although if they are avid readers every day is also acceptable 😊 Our library day is Monday so if your child would like to change their library book it needs to be in school on a Monday.

This half term our whole school focus is **'Into the Woods'**. We will be trying to answer the following 3 questions:

Are trees beautiful? - Looking at how artists represent trees and woodlands.

Should we protect trees? - Finding out why trees are so important and looking both locally and nationally at protected woodlands.

Are there any famous trees? - Using our research skills to find information about world record trees to make our own 'Tree Guinness Book of Records'.

Through our Literacy work, we will be writing poems about trees and stories all about the importance of looking after the woods.

I know that starting in the juniors can be a very nervous time for some children and I have tried to reassure them on our 'Meet the Teacher' day before the holidays. If your child is worried about anything please do encourage them to talk to someone about it as if we don't know, we can't help.

Throughout the year, we will continue to send home the Key Instant Recall Facts. These are maths facts which are absolutely vital for our children to know off by heart and as the name suggests have instant recall of. Each half term your child will be given a new set of facts appropriate for their age range. We suggest that they practice learning these 3 times a week. You don't need to spend lots of time on them just 5 or 10 minutes and try to make it as fun as possible. The sheets we have sent home have some top tips and suggested activities and websites to help make learning the facts fun. It is important that the children keep practicing them even when they think they know them, as the more practice they have the quicker they will become.

Please make sure you check out our weekly blog on the school website www.stjosephschorley.co.uk

You can also keep up to date with daily events by following our Twitter account where I often post pictures of the fun we are having as we are having it!

@Limbrick_Class

The children have all been given homework folders which contain exercise books and equipment to help complete their homework each week. In a change to previous years and in response to some feedback from parents, we will be sending home weekly spellings and timetables homework rather than the more 'crafty' activities. It is vital that the children spend a little time several times during the week practicing their spellings using some of the games and activities I have suggested in their homework books. I have tried to make these as fun as possible and also allow the children a little choice of the activity they choose to do. During the week the children will be tested on the spellings they have been given so it is important they practice. Homework books and folders **MUST** be returned to school every Friday so that I can put in new work ready for the following Monday.

I appreciate that this newsletter is crammed full of information so if there is anything you are unsure of please do come and ask.