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We care enough to try our best in all we do because we are wonderfully made: made to love, made to

flourish, made to be unique Dorchester Road, Puddletown, Dorchester, DT2 8FZ Tel: (01305) 848206 Head of School: Mrs A Seal

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2 November 2023

Dear Families,

I hope everyone enjoyed the half-term break. Below is some information you may find useful for Autumn Term 2.

• **Maths** - This half-term we will be continuing to look at different methods to help us with addition and subtraction including the column method. We will also be working on multiplication and division, introducing our 3 and 4 times tables. Please keep practicing the 2, 5 and 10 times tables at home as well as these new ones. Don't forget we have a great resource in Times Table rockstars that can help.

• **Topic** - Our topic this half term will be Skeletons. We will be scientists, looking at the important jobs the skeleton does, not just in humans but in animals too. We will also be looking at our muscles and joints and thinking about what is needed to keep our bodies healthy. This will also feed into our English writing and art/DT.

• **PE** - This half-term PE will be on a Wednesday and Friday. We will be doing Football on a Friday. As it can get a little muddy at this time of year it's really important your child has a PE kit to change into, including trainers, and I would recommend spare socks in case they get wet feet.

• Home reading – We're noticing a lot of reading diaries aren't being updated. Children should be aiming to read 5x a week, ideally to an adult. Even for more confident readers, this is really important to help them practice expression, intonation, and comprehension. It's also nice for us to see what books the children are reading outside of school. House points are awarded to those who achieve this goal.

• Home learning - Home learning sheets have been sent home with ideas to support their topic learning. This should really be something that enhances their learning and gets them thinking beyond what we learn in the classroom.

• **Spellings** – New spellings have been set for this half term and the spelling quiz will again be on a Monday. If your child is accessing the Little Wandle scheme, then this will not apply. In their Next Steps books, children will also have a new highlighted list of Common Exception words they need to continue to practice (in pink).

• **Named clothing** – We have a lot of abandoned jumpers in our classroom with no names on them. Please make sure clothing is named.

There will be lots of Christmas activities planned as the term progresses as well so we're looking forward to a very fun half term. We also look forward to hopefully seeing you at our open afternoon – further information to follow.

If you have any questions, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Miss Bridge and Mrs Cooke