

# Puddletown Church of England First School

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

E-mail: [office@puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk)

[www.puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk)

19th February, 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers

I trust the children have had a refreshing and fun half- term holiday after the very busy first half of term. We look forward to this term and the better weather to extend our learning outside as much as we can.

## TOPIC

This term our topic is 'Space'. When I told the children, they were very pleased. We will be starting our topic this week by talking about things that they already knew and they amazed me with space facts and knowledge. We will be thinking about questions that we would like to find out about. For example: Is the moon made of cheese? What can you eat in Space? How can you travel to Space? Where does Space come from? What are stars? How does the sky change to blue? and Can we live in Space? The children will be learning about the Solar system and learning facts about the planets. We will also be finding out about astronauts and in particular Tim Peake.

The children will be encouraged to write independently this term in simple sentences. They will be making their own Space passport, labelling rockets, writing lists of things they would take in their rocket, writing facts about the planets.

## Phonics

For the rest of the term we will be revising all the sounds with a particular focus on spelling words with the diagraph/trigraph in. Please carry on revising each grapheme in the phonic scrapbooks as this groundwork will aid your child's reading and writing. **These phonemes/graphemes are much harder to learn and need lots of practice at home and school.** As there will not be any new sounds being added to the scrapbooks it will be a good opportunity to complete the ones you haven't done.

**Wk beg 19.2.24.** Review Phase 3: ai ee igh oa oo ar or ur oo ow oi ear

**Wk beg 26.2.24.** Review Phase 3: er air words with double letters, longer words

**Wk beg 4.3.24.** Words with two or more digraphs

**Wk beg 11.3.24.** Longer words words ending in -ing compound words

**Wk beg 18.3.24.** Longer words words with s in the middle /z/ s words ending -s words with -es at end /z/

**Wk beg 25.3.24.** Revision and assessment

## Reading

Children have been put into new reading groups according to their progress on the Spring 1 assessment. They will continue to have three guided reading sessions during



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE



CHARTER  
STANDARD  
SCHOOLS



the week. We keep detailed notes of your child's progress in these sessions in school. They will then bring their book home to read with on a **Wednesday so you will have longer to practise**. For some children this will be the first time that they have had books with words. **Please remember to return the book on a Monday**. Please continue to use the pink reading diaries to record your child's reading at home as this is very helpful for me to read. Regular reading at home will make a huge difference to their progress in reading.

The children will continue to bring home a book for you to share with them on a Friday and this will be changed the following Friday.

**There are no new tricky words this term so please keep practising the pink and blue tricky words on the tags. There are 6 weeks to try and learn the ones they find hard. After Easter there will be new ones to learn (the green words at the back of the pink diaries).**

### Maths

We follow White Rose Maths. There is lots of information on their website for parents. Each week we will be focusing on different number concepts/ topics.

<p><b>Wk beg 19.2.24.</b></p> <p>Step 3 Explore height</p> <p>Step 4 Compare height</p> <p>Step 5 Talk about time</p> <p>Step 6 Order and sequence time</p>	<p><b>Wk beg 11.3.24.</b></p> <p>Step 9 Make arrangements of 10</p> <p>Step 10 Bonds to 10 (3 parts)</p> <p>Step 11 Doubles to 10 (find a double)</p> <p>Step 12 Doubles to 10 (make a double)</p> <p>Step 13 Explore even and odd</p>
<p><b>Wk beg 26.2.24.</b></p> <p>Step 1 Find 9 and 10</p> <p>Step 2 Compare numbers to 10</p> <p>Step 3 Represent 9 and 10</p> <p>Step 4 Conceptual subitising to 10</p>	<p><b>Wk beg 18.3.24.</b></p> <p>Step 1 Recognise and name 3-D shapes</p> <p>Step 2 Find 2-D shapes within 3-D shapes</p> <p>Step 3 Use 3-D shapes for tasks</p>
<p><b>Wk beg 4.3.24.</b></p> <p>Step 5 1 more</p> <p>Step 6 1 less</p> <p>Step 7 Composition to 10</p> <p>Step 8 Bonds to 10 (2 parts)</p>	<p><b>Wk beg 25.3.24.</b></p> <p>Step 4 3-D shapes in the environment</p> <p>Step 5 Identify more complex patterns</p> <p>Step 6 Copy and continue patterns</p> <p>Step 7 Patterns in the environment</p>

### REMINDERS

- Please could you check **name labels** in your child's clothes, snack pots and drink bottles as they tend to start disappearing at this time of year.

- This term the children have got dance lessons on a Thursday afternoon with Holly. On Friday afternoons they will be having games lessons with Mr Treble, if it is nice weather they will be going outside so they will need their plimsoles.
- Each child in the class has a year 4 buddy and this term their buddy time will be on a Thursday afternoon.
- World Book Day is Thursday 7th March - there will be a separate letter regarding this.
- There will be a parents evening this term to discuss the progress of your child. More details to follow.
- Please can I remind you that any snacks that are sent in must be a healthy fruit snack. **Please do not send any items into school that contain nuts.**
- We will be having a **special dress up 'Space Day' Wednesday 20th March.** The children can come dressed in anything related to Space. There are lots of dress up ideas on the internet, here are some below. We will be doing lots of Space themed activities on this day.



Please do not hesitate to speak to me if you have any questions on any of the above or anything else.

Yours sincerely  
Mrs Flux and Mrs Newton