



# Widmer End Community Combined School and Pre-School

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Widmer End Community Combined School  
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Monday 6th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a lovely holiday and are ready for the new term ahead. We have included some reminders about our classroom routines and general information to keep you informed about the term ahead.

Please see our **Spring Term curriculum map** to find out about the topics and aspects of learning we will be covering in the Spring term. A copy of this will be sent to you separately and also available on the school website.

## **Reading Record Book**

These will still be collected on a Monday so that we can check the reading that has taken place the week prior to this. Please make sure you write any reading that has taken place, including any reading from the weekend and sign and date it. Please encourage your child to read as regularly as possible, this doesn't just have to be a school reading book. Please also discuss your child's reading with them, ask questions and share the enjoyment of reading to develop their comprehension skills. There will be many opportunities throughout the week for your child to take an Accelerated Reader quiz - they just need to let us know each morning if they need to do one. We will be completing a new STAR reading test with the children, so they will be given their new ZPD scores soon after.

## **Home learning**

Homework consisting of Maths and English will continue to be set on a Wednesday and will be due back the following Monday. Spellings are set on a Friday and will be tested the following Thursday.

## **Times tables**

Year 5 children are expected to practise their times tables regularly in preparation for their Cracking Times Tables test every **Thursday**. They can do this in any way they feel will help them, focusing on appropriate times tables. They could play games, use the computer, random table challenge, work with a parent etc. We now have Times Tables Rockstars which is a valuable resource for supporting understanding of tables and rapid recall. The date and time they have spent on this practice needs to be recorded and signed (by an adult) in the Reading Record Book.

We will reward children with house points for completing and handing in their home learning on time. If your child does not complete all of their home learning they may be expected to complete it during our lunchtime homework club on a Thursday lunchtime. We appreciate your support with this.

## **PE days**



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On the days that your child has PE, they will need to come to school wearing their kit for the whole day. Children will need to come to school in their PE kit on a **Tuesday** and a **Thursday**.

## **Swimming**

Swimming will begin this week for the next term, starting on **Thursday 16th January 2025** at Cedar Park School. We will walk there each Thursday after lunch for our sessions. Please be advised that PE kit should be worn on these days and swimming kits brought with them in a bag. The last session will be held on Thursday 3rd April.

## **Morning break**

It is important that you send a snack for your children. This must be a piece of **fruit/vegetable**. This will help the children to focus in lessons, as it boosts their energy levels.

## **Dates to Remember**

**7th March - Handball competition at HGSS.**

**Monday 17th March - Trip to the Natural History Museum**

Thank you to those of you who have volunteered to support us for the Natural History Museum Trip. If there is anyone who is available to support us with the afternoon trip to Holmer Green Senior School for the Handball tournament, please can you email the office. We would be very grateful.

We look forward to seeing you all back at school this week.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Weston and Miss Larcombe