



Milverton Community Primary School

Year R Newsletter

Spring Term

Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and the children are ready for a new exciting term!

The whole school quest for this term is 'Whizz Pop Bang! We will be exploring polar regions, visiting outer space, mixing magic potions with wizards and witches and digging up dinosaur bones and exploring explosive environments. Please see the overview attached for more information.

A few changes!

Now the children have settled into school life and routines we feel it is time to focus on some specific skills they need to develop. Each morning (after putting their reading book in the basket and putting their book bag away) the children will now self-register by finding their 'super sentences' book from their house basket and sitting on their carpet space to practice their handwriting and sentence writing. There will be some letters / words / sentences on the board for them to copy. We initially will be focussing on forming our letters correctly and remembering to start with a capital letter and end with a full stop. As time goes on we will challenge the children to add to the sentence on the board by using describing words. The letters/words/sentence on the board will have 3 different levels. We ask that all children start at the top and try to challenge themselves to write the full sentence / all the letters at the bottom of the page by the end of the week. Please do remember that all children develop at their own rate and try to not push your child on to the next challenge before they are ready - we all get there in the end! We are trying to encourage independence so once your child has found their 'super sentences' book please say goodbye and the staff will be on hand to help them.

Some extra information:

A big thank you for supporting your child with their reading at home. The progress they have all been making has been fantastic. Please try to hear your child read at least a few pages everyday as this increases their confidence and regular practice helps to build on their blending skills as well as their fluency. On occasion you will find a bookmark of tricky words or words containing specific phonic sounds, please help your child practice to read and spell these words.

We would welcome some extra parent helpers to hear children read in school. If you can spare just a small amount of time please let us know.

The children love receiving WOW cards and they are a real insight into the children's lives outside of school and their skills and development. Please can we encourage you to continue to share these with us as much as possible (WOW cards will be available on the display board just outside of the classroom).

'Special Star Person' continues! The children who have already been Special Star Person have been fantastic and have loved sharing their special things as much as we have enjoyed finding out all about them. Do not worry everyone will get the chance to shine! 'Special Star Person' is an opportunity for your child to gain self-confidence and expand their communication and language skills by talking to the class about their interests, hobbies and personal experiences. The special star person date for your child can be found near the front of their reading record book. On this date your child will have the opportunity to bring in a selection of items, for example family photos, objects related to your child's hobbies (e.g. Ballet shoes), special toys or books and anything that is of interest to your child that they would like to share with the class. Your child will need to bring in their Special Star Person things on a Monday and they will be displayed in the classroom for the rest of the week. We look forward to finding out about the rest of the children's interests.

If you would like more information please feel free to approach any member of the team (after school is probably best!) Thank you for your help and support.



**We make use of the outdoor area
everyday so please ensure that
your child has full waterproofs
and wellies in school everyday.
Thank You.**