

# HOME SCHOOL LINK

## Lower School Autumn 07

### Welcome

Hello and welcome back to a new school year. This Home School Link is designed to develop our communication with you and keep you informed on what your child is being taught in school. Our topic this term is fire and we plan to visit the local Fire Station as well as St John the Baptist Church. There is a 'Meet the Teacher' evening for all parents and carers on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00 p.m.** in the hall.

### Homework

KS1 children will be given homework on a Friday to be returned on Monday. If your child is unable to complete their work over the weekend, please inform your child's class teacher. Work will be related to Literacy or Numeracy and will consolidate work taught in class. Homework is generally set at 3 or 4 different levels and it should take no more than 30 minutes to complete. If your child is finding the particular task difficult, don't worry if you stop before it is completed; just write a brief note to explain. Comments about how well your child managed to tackle the homework are welcomed, so feel free to write them at the end of the homework.

### Spellings

Weekly spelling lists will be sent home on Fridays and will be tested on the following Thursday. Lists will be differentiated and are closely linked to words taught in phonics that week. The list your child learns will be dependent on their spelling skills shown in individual writing, rather than their test scores. Please use the 'Look, Say, Cover, Write and Check' method to help your child learn to spell and write their words.

### Behaviour

Sticker charts are used to encourage appropriate behaviour. This year children will be working towards gaining the 'goldfish', 'dolphin', and shark certificates, which will be celebrated in a whole class assembly, before being sent home so you can share in their success too. Your child also has a name card which is placed on a large sun at the beginning of each day. This name card representing a 'ray of sunshine' is moved to a cloud if your child misbehaves despite reminders, and a few minutes of 'golden time' are missed later in the week.

### Reading

Please try to listen to your child read regularly and make comments in their blue Home School Reading Book. Once you are happy that your child can read and talk about their book with confidence, the book can be changed provided a comment has been written in the Home School Reading Book, which is shown to the teacher first to ensure no problems are occurring. *There is no set day for hearing individual readers, so please try to bring in books every day so that the teacher can write comments when your child is heard read.* If your child does not have their book at school they will be asked to choose a different book from the book box. Your child will also be taught reading strategies through Guided Reading activities. In addition, flashcards of high frequency words will be given to enable children to learn to read Reception and Y1/2 words as specified in the National Literacy Strategy. When confident to read these, no more flashcards will be sent home and time will be spent developing pace and expression and probing questioning will check understanding and inference.

### PE

During the Autumn term all KS1 PE is indoors. Children do PE in appropriate elasticised PE shorts and a plain T-shirt without buttons.

We do indoor PE in bare feet unless a letter has been received to say that your child has a verruca, in which case they may wear properly fitting plimsolls. Children should not be wearing any jewellery, other than stud earrings, and these need to be removed during PE sessions or covered with micro pore tape.

PE times are as follows:

**Nightingale:** (A Beaumont) Tuesday a.m., Thursday p.m.

**Kingfisher:** (H Cole) Thursday a.m., Thursday p.m.

**Chaffinch:** (S Hutchinson) Monday a.m., Wednesday p.m.

**Woodpecker:** (F Holland) Monday a.m. Wednesday p.m.

### School Clothes

Please name and renew names as necessary after washing, since many items are often misplaced in school - particularly jumpers. Please ensure children have suitable coats and gloves etc and that footwear is suitable for school. Since children do a lot of running around, high heels and boots are not appropriate.



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## Curriculum map: Lower School- Autumn Term 2007

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Geography History	<b>History</b> How fire fighting has changed. The Great Fire of London The fire of Somersham <i>Linked to Literacy, Art, ICT</i> <b>Geography:</b> An Island Home Studying Struay, Transport on and around Struay People and jobs on Struay Similarities and differences between Struay and Somersham <i>Linked to Literacy, Art, ICT</i>							<b>History</b> Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot <i>Linked to Literacy</i>						
Design & Technology  Art & Design	<i>Design and Technology</i> <i>Exploring construction equipment to design and make a model fire engine</i> <i>Linked to History,</i>							<b>Art</b> Animation of London's burning- Classes create a background and film slightly different scenes to create a short film. <i>Linked to History, ICT, Speaking and Listening, DT</i>						
PHSE Citizenship	<b>SEAL- Going for Goals</b> Knowing myself Setting goals Features of a good learner Achievements Solutions for problem situations							<b>P.S.H.E</b> Safe people and places How accidents could happen Stranger danger Safety do's and don'ts Secrets <b>SEAL - anti bullying</b>						
English	Work will be from the new Literacy Framework. Units of work will cover narrative and non-narrative writing as well as poetry.													
Science	<b>Changing materials</b> - heating and cooling <b>Light</b> - sources of light The sun Candle investigation Shadows Blocking light Shiny objects and reflections							<b>Electricity</b> - electrical appliances Dangers of electricity Making simple circuits Broken circuits						
Mathematics	<b>Ordering &amp; rounding numbers</b>	<b>Addition &amp; Subtraction</b> <i>Multiplication and Division</i> <i>Y2 only</i>		<b>Written methods for addition &amp; subtraction</b>		<b>Measures – time, mass, length and capacity</b>		<b>Problem solving</b>		<b>2D and 3D shapes, symmetry and turns</b>				
Religious Education	Belonging to a community Harvest							Diwali <p style="text-align: right;">Christians giving gifts at Christmas</p>						
Information Technology	Computer simulations and adventure games; Albert's House, Granny's Garden							How to use Paint to produce a picture. MS Powerpoint – using Text, graphics, and sound effects. Yr 2's will add special effects.						
Music	Y2's learning the ocarina							Songs for Christmas performance Y2's learning the ocarina						
Physical Education	<b>Dance</b> <p style="text-align: right;">Bonfire and firework dance</p> The Sun							<b>Dance</b> <p style="text-align: right;">Diwali dance</p>						
	<b>Gymnastics</b> Travelling on hands and feet considering body shape and directions Jumping							<b>Gymnastics</b> Weight bearing Travelling on large body parts Rocking and rolling Sequences						