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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, I hope you have all enjoyed your half-term holiday and a well-deserved rest. I am really looking forward to this term as we have a brilliant topic to cover and not only that, but the magic of Christmas is just around the corner. With nativity, the pantomime, Christmas songs and decorations, and that mischievous little elf will be back and up to no good!!

London's Burning

This term our topic is called '**London's Burning**'. In English, we will be exploring books such as Vlad and the Great Fire of London and You Wouldn't want to be in the Great Fire of London. We will use these texts to create diary entries and newspaper reports. We will be exploring London in 1666 using VR headsets which are great fun for the children. In History, you guessed it, we will be learning all about the Great Fire of London and how it shaped what London is today. In DT this term we will be exploring Tudor houses and building the structures by measuring, cutting, and joining of materials. In Science we will be learning about different animal classifications based on their features and characteristics. We will also be delving into food chains looking at an animal's diet including that of carnivores, omnivores, and herbivores. In computing we are looking at three artists including Georges Seurat, Henri Matisse and Wassily Kandinsky and digitally re-creating their work and comparing this to a real painting. In RE we will be further deepening our knowledge on Christianity, looking at authority that the Holy Trinity have and thinking about how Christians show respect and compassion for thy neighbour.

Personal Belongings

Just another reminder due to the change in weather please make sure your child has appropriate clothing e.g. hat, scarf and gloves and make sure that **everything** is clearly labelled with your child's name (forename and surname) so we are able to return any lost items to the correct child. If your child has lost something, please tell them to check our lost property box.

P.E.

This term our topic is dance focusing on sequencing of movements, balancing and team work. Our PE sessions are twice a week on a **Tuesday** and **Thursday**. On a Tuesday they will have their PE session with myself, and on Thursday they will have their PE session with JB sports. If your child wears earrings, could I please ask that they are removed before school to keep your child safe.

Homework

It is great to see so many children engaging with all aspects of their homework. Every child has a blue homework folder, and this is where their homework will be. Please ensure all homework is back in school the following **Friday morning** at the latest. All homework which has been handed in on time will get 2 dojo points per homework topic. If children have completed phonics homework, can I politely ask that you tick the sheet on completion. Your child will also have maths

Swineshead St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Abbey Road, Swineshead, Boston, Lincs,
PE20 3EN Tel: 01205 820356

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PE20 2JN Tel: 01205 460547



homework set via the online app Sumdog. Log ins for your child's Sumdog account can be found in the inside page of their reading record.

Reading Books

Sharing Book

Your child will change their sharing book on a **Monday and Friday**. Please ensure your child brings their sharing book back to school on both days so they can be changed.

Phonics Book

Your child will read their phonics book three times a week within school. Your child will then bring their new phonics book home on a Wednesday. This book is based on your child's phonics level which has is directly from their assessment. Please make sure your child's previous phonics book is in school on the Wednesday morning so we can issue their new one.

Reading Records

Children need to be bringing in their reading records every day due to teaching and support staff reading with them. Please make sure that if your child reads at home that you sign their reading record book accordingly. We are closely monitoring those children who are reading at home and are issuing those with their dojos (2 dojo points every day that they read, that could mean a total of 14 dojos).

Nativity

Our Nativity planning has already begun and information, including parts, costumes and tickets will be out shortly.

Pantomime

This year the pantomime will be Beauty and the Beast at the South Holland Centre in Spalding, leaving school on the coach at 9am and back by 1pm on Wednesday 13th December. This can be paid via parentmail by the **10th November 2023**.

Extra dates to note.

PTFA 'fireworks' disco 6th November.
Remembrance Assembly @ 9am 9th November
Anti bullying week 13th-16th November.
Odd socks day 13th November.
Children in Need (Non uniform) 17th November.
PTFA Christmas fete 1st December.
EYFS/KS1 Nativity @ 1:30pm 8th December.
EYFS/KS1 Nativity @ 5:30pm 11th December.
Christmas dinner 12th December.
School pantomime 13th December.
Christmas church service @ 9:30am 14th December.
Class Christmas parties 20th December.

If you have any questions, worries, or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me via Class Dojo and I will endeavour to get back to you in due course.

Kind Regards,
Miss Maclean

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