
Grenville Combined School

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Headteacher: Mr Peter Wain, MA

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Dear Parents

Welcome to another new term! How the time flies - it is the last one in Year 1!

This term, our cross-curricular topic, with Year 2, is “*Extreme Environments*”. This will involve mostly geographically-based studies, but we will also be looking at some historical aspects; polar explorers, such as Scott and Amundsen, and comparing life for polar communities today with that of the past. We are also looking forward to creating some super art work around this theme, both observational and imaginary; during the first half term, we plan to be making models of igloos! After the half term break and all the Jubilee celebrations, we will be learning about the hottest places in the World, focussing particularly on the Rain Forest and all the amazing plant and animal life that can be found within this incredibly important environment. Throughout the entire topic, the children will also be enjoying a variety of lovely stories, music and drama relating to both the hottest and coldest places on the Earth.

Our first Science topic this term is “Light and Dark”, and this will be followed later in the term by the topic “Growing Plants” which will link closely to the Rain Forest theme.

Years R, 1 and 2 have planned a trip to Stanwick Lakes, near Northampton for Tuesday 10 July. This is a beautiful outdoor environment for us to visit and each class will be able to participate in several interesting activities on the day, led both by official park wardens and our own staff. The letter outlining this visit will follow in due course.

Children will continue to be given homework each Friday, which will usually be based on the week’s Literacy or Numeracy. Spellings are given out and the books are due back the following Monday. There may sometimes be work from other subjects, which are either a follow-up to a lesson, or perhaps research for a future lesson. Please ensure that all written homework is completed in pencil, as this will reinforce how we write in school. Homework must be completed by the following Thursday morning, so that it can be marked, and we can share the work done, before giving out the new sheets.

It is very important that children are still reading at home and practising their key words as part of their homework. We are still finding that many children, who have learnt to spell their key words, are not consistently using the correct spellings in their writing, so it is especially important to keep practising the early ones. This term we will be continuing to look at the various different spellings of the long vowel phonemes, as well as continually revising all other letter patterns and letter sounds we have learnt.

All children will continue to be heard to read individually, and their books will be changed twice a week. They will also be heard regularly, in groups, during guided reading sessions.

May we also remind you, that every child should have a **complete** PE kit, of white shirt, black shorts and plimsolls? Please ensure that all items are clearly named, as we have quite a collection of un-named kit! Correct footwear is vital especially for outdoor games. Also, earrings **should not be worn** for PE. For health and safety reasons, it is no longer enough just to cover them with tape.

If you ever have any worries about your child, please feel free to speak to us either before or after school, and we will do our best to help you.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Rachell Byrne
Year 1 teachers

Mrs Holly Purefoy

