

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the Spring Term, although it doesn't feel spring like at the moment! This is a timely reminder that the children play out of doors every day whatever the weather so please send them to school with warm coats, hats and gloves. Also, it is quite cool in school as we are ventilating the building as part of protection against COVID so warm layers are important, I favour a thermal vest and this is a good idea for the children too N.B. Sports Skins are not suitable for school.

The theme this term is Longitude and Latitude and takes a geographical approach, we are also, naturally going to have lots of fun and therefore we are planning to incorporate a look at pirates in this term.

We are now bringing home our bookbags daily and returning them to school daily, this is in order for us to hear readers and support intervention programs. PE kits will remain in school and be sent home at half term. Year 1's will have PE on Tuesday afternoons and football on Thursday afternoons, Reception we are aiming for a PE session at some time during the week but it will be a fluid timetable as lot's of our physical development happens all day every day. Reception will be able to join in with James Lofthouse' football session on a Thursday lunchtime and do not require any special equipment.

The children are making super progress in their phonics but still need regular reminders of the letter sounds, so it would be fantastic if you use their red book to check their phonemes. You will notice that I am sending home two Tricky words per week, we are learning these in our phonics lessons and for homework I would ask that you practise reading and writing them. In phonics lessons in class, we are practising using our phonics knowledge to read and write words, we are also learning Capital letter names and when to use them.

In maths we are practising reading and writing numbers, Careful counting, subitising, shape, space and measure amongst many others and this generally all happens through play in the continuous provision in our EYFS base.

The Year 1 children have a much more focussed approach to their learning and are led daily in a Year 1 maths and English activity.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the children and of school. If you have any queries do not hesitate in contacting me by email via [admin@sotterington.dalesmat.org](mailto:admin@sotterington.dalesmat.org) or by phone on 01604 776273

Kindest Regards,

Ms Jenkinson