



# Forest Academy

Bury Road, Brandon

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Headteachers : Mrs A Grimes and Mrs L Rourke

Dear Parents/Carers,



Welcome back to a new year in KS2 (years 3, 4 and 5). We have a new team working together this year and are thrilled to welcome Miss Rate into Elm class and Miss Edmeades to Hazel Class. Mrs Gough remains working in Rowan class, Miss Barneveld will be teaching in Pine and Mr McDonald will be in Maple class. We hope that you have all had a restful summer and are looking forward to the year ahead and celebrating our many successes.



This half term our topic is The Victorians. This will be an excellent opportunity for children to find out about the reign of Queen Victoria and the British Empire. We will be learning about the accomplishments of enterprising and creative members of Victorian society e.g. key artists and engineers such as Isambard Kingdom-Brunel whose landmarks still stand across the country today. We will also be visiting the Museum of East Anglian Life – please remember to return your permission slips ☺

## P.E

Hazel	<b>Monday:</b> Indoor PE ( <i>this may include gymnastics, dance, apparatus</i> )	<b>Tuesday:</b> Kwik Cricket (outdoors)
Elm	<b>Monday:</b> Indoor PE ( <i>this may include gymnastics, dance, apparatus</i> )	<b>Wednesday:</b> Swimming <i>N.B. There will be no swimming on 26<sup>th</sup> September due to pool closure.</i>
Pine	<b>Wednesday:</b> Indoor PE ( <i>this may include gymnastics, dance, apparatus</i> )	<b>Thursday:</b> Kwik Cricket (outdoors)
Maple	<b>Tuesday:</b> Kwik Cricket (outdoors)	<b>Friday:</b> Indoor PE ( <i>this may include gymnastics, dance, apparatus</i> )
Rowan	<b>Wednesday:</b> Indoor PE ( <i>this may include gymnastics, dance, apparatus</i> )	<b>Thursday:</b> Kwik Cricket (outdoors)



Children will have PE on the days stated above. Cricket will be outside, and therefore children will need to have a warm tracksuit and appropriate outdoor PE shoes for these sessions as wherever possible we will try and get outdoors. It is important that children have their PE kit in school at all times just in case the unreliable British weather causes us to change days. If your child is swimming, please ensure they have the kit specified in the previous letter with them on a Wednesday. Please speak to Miss Rate if you are unsure.

## Home Learning

Children in KS2 will be set weekly home learning. Children will have four home learning books – one for mental maths, times tables, grammar and punctuation, and one for reading comprehension. The school have provided these in the first instance but the expectation is that children take responsibility for these. If they

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become lost, parents will incur the cost of their replacement. Children will be set pages from these books on an alternate basis e.g. during one week children may be set some revision of mental maths skills and a grammar based activity, the following week will be a times tables activity and comprehension. Inside the front cover of each of these books will be the page number so that it is clear what activities need to be completed. We will also continue to have weekly spellings to learn which will link directly to what is being taught in class and please log on regularly to Mathletics. For example:

Week:	Maths	English
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mental Maths book/timestable book</li> <li>Timestable practise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehension book</li> <li>Spelling practise</li> <li>Reading</li> <li>Lexia (if applicable)</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mental Maths book/timestable book</li> <li>Timestable practise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SPAG book</li> <li>Spelling practise</li> <li>Reading</li> <li>Lexia (if applicable)</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mental Maths book/timestable book</li> <li>Timestable practise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehension book</li> <li>Spelling practise</li> <li>Reading</li> <li>Lexia (if applicable)</li> </ul>

Children should read daily and this should be recorded in their reading diaries. These will be checked daily and children reading every night will earn a raffle ticket for a half termly prize draw. We will continue to promote Accelerated Reader and further information about which book band your child should be selecting from will come home within the next two weeks. We are also excited to be launching our own reading challenge, Forest's Fantastic Reads.

Home learning will be set on a Friday and the expectation is that it will be completed in full and returned to school by Wednesday the following week. This ensures the adults have enough time to mark the home learning and give children any necessary feedback before the next set is sent home. When children hand their home learning in on time they will receive a reward stamp leading to an end of term treat. Each week's stamp will earn them a part of the treat. For example, this term we are making gingerbread men and having hot



chocolate. Children completing their home learning in week one will earn the biscuit, week two the icing, week three the strawberry lace smile and so on. Those children that do not complete their home learning on time and submit it by the deadline will not earn that week's stamp and will be asked to complete it during Thursday break time. If your child has a problem completing the home learning but has had a go please note this on the bottom of the home learning or speak to the class teacher so they still have the opportunity to earn their stamp. We do not expect children to be spending longer than 2 hours a week on their home learning, but we would like to see all children having a go.

Children will be tested on their times tables on a Thursday and spellings on a Friday. Scores will be sent home with the following week's home learning.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. If you have any further questions, please feel free to arrange a time with your class teacher to discuss any concerns.

The Key Stage 2 Team

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