

Happy New Year!

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful festive break. We are very much looking forward to the start of a new year!

Just to remind you, each half-term children will be given a homework menu of activities from which they may choose **at least one** to complete. All activities relate to our class topic for this half-term: **Welcome to the 60's!**

Children should read daily. Children who are not yet independent readers are expected to read to an adult at least four times a week. Our weekly spellings are attached to the end of this document.

If you would like to do any additional maths with your child at home, please focus on times tables. Year 3 need to be able to recall 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, 8s and 10s multiplication facts and Year 4 need to know all multiplication facts from 2s to 12s. Rapid recall of multiplication facts is hugely beneficial to the learning of many mathematical concepts.

All homework is due in on Monday 9th February 2026, so the children can share their homework with their class first, before the homework celebrations when parents and carers are invited in. Our class homework celebration will be at 8.40am on Thursday 12th February. We hope to see you there.

HOMEWORK MENU!

<p>English/Computing</p> <p>Create an advert for a specific element of the 60's. E.g. TV programmes, toys, fashion item etc</p> <p>You could even do this as a written piece OR as a video/Podcast!</p>	<p>Geography/Computing</p> <p>Why do so many earthquakes and volcanoes occur around the Pacific Ring of Fire?</p> <p>Create a PowerPoint in which you locate, describe and explain why so many earthquakes and volcanoes occur in this region.</p> <p>You may wish to include maps and photographs along with facts and explanations!</p>	<p>Science</p> <p>What do plants need to grow?</p> <p>Set up an experiment to investigate what conditions affect plant growth. This can be an observation over time, documented by weekly photographs.</p>
<p>Art</p> <p>Create a 60's style piece of Pop Art using bright, vivid colours. OR some Op Art.</p> 		<p>History</p> <p>Create a poster comparing what life is like today to what life was like in the 1960's.</p>

RE

What is the best way for Sikhs show their commitment to God? (Sikhism – Prayer and Worship)

Maths

Multiplication and Division

- Factor pairs
- Use factor pairs
- Multiply by 10 and 100
- Divide by 10 and 100
- Related facts – multiplication and division
- Informal written methods for multiplication
- Multiply a 2 digit by a 1 digit / Multiply a 3 digit by a 1 digit.
- Divide a 2 digit by a 1 digit / Divide a 3 digit by a 1 digit.
- Correspondence problems
- Efficient multiplication

Length and Perimeter

- Measuring length in mm, cm, m and km
- Equivalent lengths
- Compare lengths.
- Measuring perimeter
- Perimeter of shape

Geography

Why do some earthquakes cause more damage than others?

Understand the effects of the Christchurch earthquake of 2011 from a range of sources.

Observe the distribution of earthquakes in New Zealand over the past two hundred years.

Describe the causes of earthquakes.

Understand why the most powerful earthquakes in the world do not necessarily cause the most deaths and destruction.

Identify, describe and explain the causes of volcanoes.

Explain why volcanoes often occur at the same location as earthquakes in places such as New Zealand

PE

Fitness - To develop an awareness and to see what your body is capable of.

Dance - To develop use of counting and rhythm. To move in a variety of ways using different themes.

Music

Can I play the following chords on the ukulele: C major, A minor, F major?

DEER CLASS – SPRING 1

WELCOME TO THE 60S!

Wellbeing

How do we make a community?

History

What was life like in the 60's?

We are learning about fashion, famous people, art, media, toys, TV and key events in the 1960's.

Computing

How do you sequence sounds?

Science

How do flowers grow?

What are the main parts of flowers?

What are the functions of the different parts of a flower?

How does water travel to different parts of a plant?

What happens to plants when they are put in different conditions?

What is pollen and pollination?

What is seed dispersal?

English

Fiction – The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse

We will learn various writing techniques through this text including:

- Similes
- Feelings
- Metaphors

Non-Fiction – Chronological report – Earthquakes

- Subheadings
- Facts
- Statistics

Spellings Overview for Spring 1

WEEK	Lesson 1 (spelling pattern)	Lesson 2 (spelling pattern)	Lesson 3 (consolidation)	Friday Spelling Challenge (previous weeks spellings)
Week 1	Today we are adding the suffix -ous with no change to the root word. e.g. mountainous momentous hazardous	Today we are adding the suffix -ous to words ending in -our e.g. glamorous flavorous rigorous	Today we are recapping the spelling rules we have learnt this week.	No Spelling Challenge
Week 2	Today we are adding the suffix -ous to words ending in -ge. courage + ous (courageous) Today we are adding the suffix -ous (where the -i makes an /ee/ sound). e.g. se/ri/ous	Today we are adding the suffix -ous (where the -e makes an /ee/ sound). e.g. hid/e/ous	Today we are recapping the spelling rules we have learnt this week.	poisonous, dangerous, joyous, hazardous, glamorous, vigorous, rigorous.
Week 3	Today we are adding the prefix de-. e.g. de + frost = defrost	Today we are adding the prefix over. e.g. over + used = overused	Today we are recapping the prefixes 'de' and 'over'.	courageous, outrageous, obvious, curious, hideous, spontaneous, courteous, nauseous
Week 4	Today we are adding the prefixes ir- and re- e.g. ir + regular = irregular and re + do = redo	Today we are spelling words with the silent letters gh e.g. thought	Today we are recapping the prefixes ir- and re- and words with the silent letters gh	defrost, deconstruct, decode, dehydrate, overused, overwhelm, overcharge, overload
Week 5	Consolidate learning from this half-term.	Consolidate learning from this half-term.	Consolidate learning from this half-term.	irregular, irrelevant, recover, return, right, bought, dough, weigh

Statutory spellings

Two of the following words will appear in each spelling challenge this half term. These are words children must learn – there isn't necessarily a pattern/rule!

enough imagine increase knowledge through material busy business