

## ***Newsletter – Friday, 13 September 2019***

Dear Parents / Carers,

### **Welcome to Reception Class**

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our new penguin class children and parents. The children have settled in very well to their new surroundings and are getting along well together, which is great to see.

### **Homework Changes**

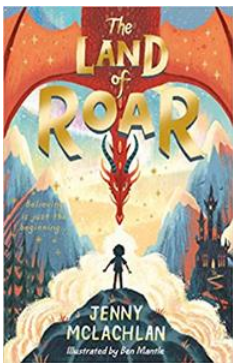
We have reviewed and made changes to the way that homework is organised this year. Things have been simplified in order that we can focus together on areas of learning that will have the most benefit to the children. Attached with the newsletter is a short document explaining the changes for KS1 and KS2. You will notice that the emphasis is on: **reading, spelling and times tables**. The children have made a great start in Key Stage 2 with their reading journals – we celebrated some good examples in assembly today and I know that Times Tables Rockstars is a real 'hit' with the children! Homework will be handed out on a Tuesday and collected on the following Monday, this will be the same for all classes. We hope that this simplified system will be more effective. Your support with homework makes a huge difference to your child's progress. Please let your child's class teacher know if you have any questions.

### **Nut Free School**

A reminder that we are a **nut-free school**. We do have children in school who are allergic to nuts. Please ensure that there are no products containing nuts in your child's packed lunch. Many thanks.

### **Attendance**

Our target for attendance is 96%. Last year we dipped to 94%. As you know, good attendance is vital if children are to make good progress and be successful in school. This is why we work hard to encourage and reward good attendance. Every week we present rewards to the best classes in KS1 and 2. Last year we didn't have any weeks when a class had 100% attendance (we had a couple of 99% weeks). It would be amazing if we could regularly celebrate classes getting 100% for the whole week; I know the children are really keen to try and achieve this. In order to help us improve attendance, we have employed the services of Noble Education who will be supporting us to reach our target. Well done for making a great start everyone – see table below ☺



### **Special Visitor – Years 4, 5 and 6 – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September**

Children's author, Jenny McLachlan, will be visiting Ashton Vale on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September to talk to Years 4, 5 and 6 about her latest book 'The Land of Roar'. If you would like to purchase a copy for your child you can order and pay for a copy through the school gateway (£6.99) and then Jenny will be able to personally sign the book on the day.

### **Oliver Jeffers at Waterstones Bristol Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 11.30am**

Oliver Jeffers, author of many favourite children's books e.g. The Day the Crayons Quit; Here We Are; This Moose Belong To Me; Stuck – and many others, is in Bristol to sign copies of his latest book, 'The Fate of Fausto'. Well worth a visit.



### Attendance League Table 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Position	Class	Attendance
1	Falcon	100%
2	Blue Jay	100%
3	Robin	100%
4	Kingfisher	98.7%
5	Flamingo	94.2%
6	Crow	93.5%
7	Penguin	N/A%
Average		98%

### Dates for the diary

**Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Sept** – First celebration Assembly of Term  
**Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Sept** – Year 2 Visit to Cardiff Castle  
**Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Sept** – Jenny McLachlan, Visiting Author Y4, 5 and 6 ‘The Land of Roar’  
**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept (week beginning)** – Clubs Start  
**Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Sept, Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Oct and Weds 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct** – Year 6 Trip to Tyntesfield  
**Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Oct** – Harvest Festival Assembly Year 1  
**Weds 9<sup>th</sup> Oct** – Year 3 Trip to Cheddar Gorge  
**Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Oct** – PTA AGM 3.30pm Library  
**Mon 14<sup>th</sup> Oct (week beginning)** – Parent /Teacher Meetings Week  
**Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Oct** – Launch of Times Tables Rock Stars  
**Weds 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct** – Reception Parents Reading Meeting  
**Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Oct** – Last day of Term

