



Spring 2 Newsletter

Year 3



Welcome back! We hope that you had a great half term break and we look forward to an exciting second half of the spring term. Days are getting warmer and longer and our lovely island is turning green again.

We will continue with our topic focus, 'Extreme Earth' for the next 2 weeks before changing our focus to a historical study of transport, and the impact that this has on our lifestyles and planet. Children will investigate different modes of transport and how they have changed our knowledge and understanding of our world. This is a topic which lends itself to visits and visitors; should you have an interesting vehicle please do let us know as we'd love to invite you to bring it in for the children to look at.

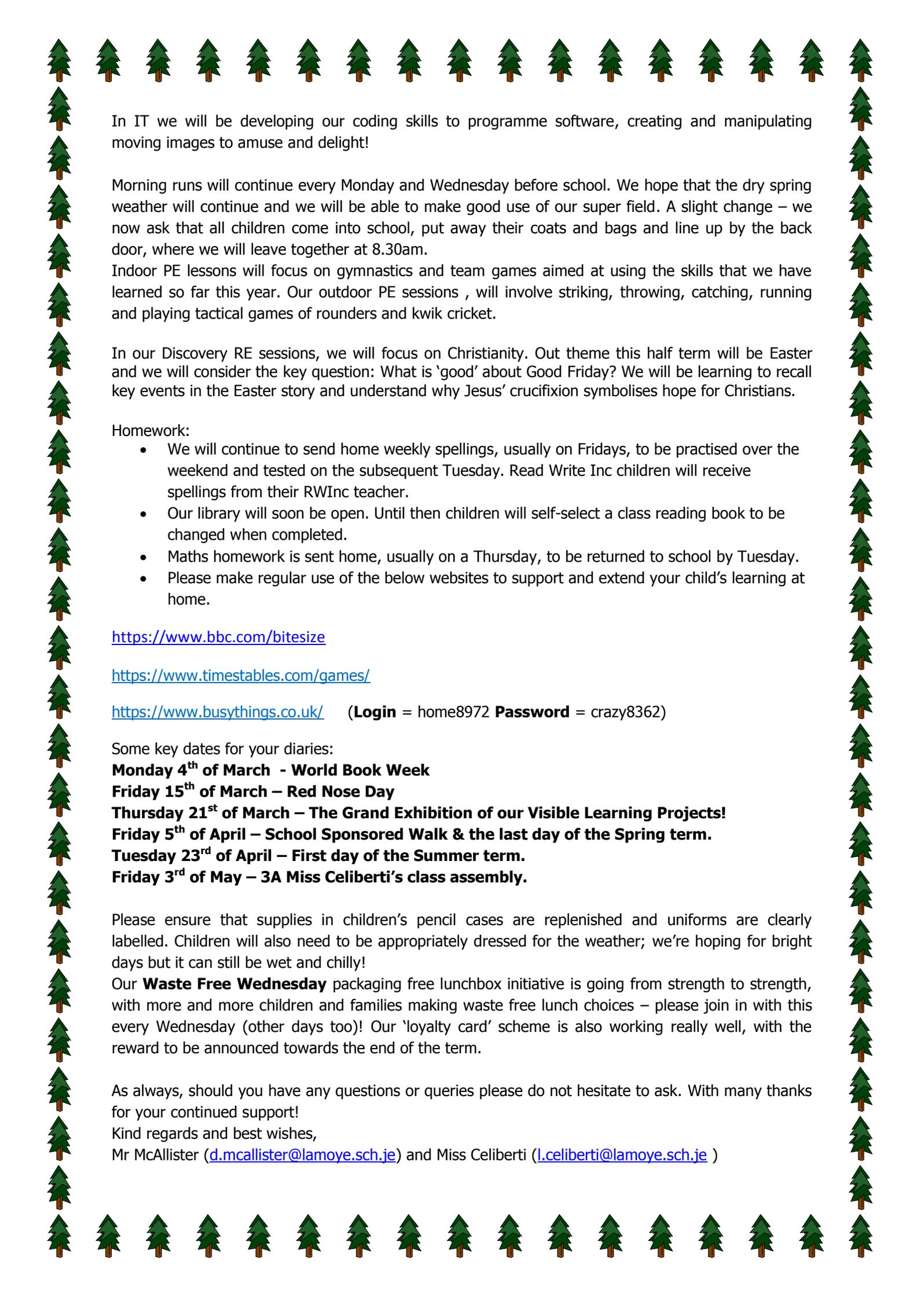
In English, we will be completing a book study of *Grandpa Chatterji* written by Jamila Gavin. The children will be exploring the characters and drawing inferences on thoughts, motives and actions. They will be writing non-chronological reports related to key themes and settings within the book, as well as preparing instructions. For the other half of the half term, the children will be editing and improving the traditional tale *Jack and the Beanstalk*. They will be composing and rehearsing sentences (including dialogue) to build varied and rich vocabulary and a range of sentence structures.

All year in Maths, we will continue with our objective of developing children's fluency, and fast and accurate recall of key number facts, through frequent practice. We will also begin to focus on measurement, starting with length, followed by mass and volume, before learning about money. We will be reading both linear and circular scales, and measuring the same objects using different units, where we will investigate equivalence. Throughout the term we will continue to focus on developing the children's deep and secure understanding of key mathematical concepts.

Our Personal, Social, Health and Emotion learning focus for the half term is titled 'Healthy Me', and within this we will learn all about making healthy choices, including eating well, being active, keeping ourselves safe and being a good friend. We will also learn some strategies to help us to keep calm and deal with difficult situations sensibly and well.

In Science this term we will complete our learning about light, making use of sunny days to create and study shadows and to look at how we can stay safe in sunny weather. We will then look at the requirements of plants as we grow a variety of tasty and beautiful flowers, vegetables and micro salads. Our potatoes are already in!

Our 'Visible Learning' art / impact of feedback project is progressing brilliantly and children are now drawing great fish, and perhaps more importantly are using feedback comments to positively influence their work. They are learning how to 'look hard enough to see', and to use different grades of pencils and shading styles to add detail and to draw what they see accurately. This will lead into a further artistic study of fish (how appropriate for our school and parish) using a variety of media including clay and acrylics. We can't wait to share these with you at our exhibition on the 21st of March.



In IT we will be developing our coding skills to programme software, creating and manipulating moving images to amuse and delight!

Morning runs will continue every Monday and Wednesday before school. We hope that the dry spring weather will continue and we will be able to make good use of our super field. A slight change – we now ask that all children come into school, put away their coats and bags and line up by the back door, where we will leave together at 8.30am.

Indoor PE lessons will focus on gymnastics and team games aimed at using the skills that we have learned so far this year. Our outdoor PE sessions , will involve striking, throwing, catching, running and playing tactical games of rounders and kwik cricket.

In our Discovery RE sessions, we will focus on Christianity. Our theme this half term will be Easter and we will consider the key question: What is 'good' about Good Friday? We will be learning to recall key events in the Easter story and understand why Jesus' crucifixion symbolises hope for Christians.

Homework:

- We will continue to send home weekly spellings, usually on Fridays, to be practised over the weekend and tested on the subsequent Tuesday. Read Write Inc children will receive spellings from their RWInc teacher.
- Our library will soon be open. Until then children will self-select a class reading book to be changed when completed.
- Maths homework is sent home, usually on a Thursday, to be returned to school by Tuesday.
- Please make regular use of the below websites to support and extend your child's learning at home.

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize>

<https://www.timestables.com/games/>

<https://www.busythings.co.uk/> (Login = home8972 Password = crazy8362)

Some key dates for your diaries:

Monday 4th of March - World Book Week

Friday 15th of March – Red Nose Day

Thursday 21st of March – The Grand Exhibition of our Visible Learning Projects!

Friday 5th of April – School Sponsored Walk & the last day of the Spring term.

Tuesday 23rd of April – First day of the Summer term.

Friday 3rd of May – 3A Miss Celiberti's class assembly.

Please ensure that supplies in children's pencil cases are replenished and uniforms are clearly labelled. Children will also need to be appropriately dressed for the weather; we're hoping for bright days but it can still be wet and chilly!

Our **Waste Free Wednesday** packaging free lunchbox initiative is going from strength to strength, with more and more children and families making waste free lunch choices – please join in with this every Wednesday (other days too)! Our 'loyalty card' scheme is also working really well, with the reward to be announced towards the end of the term.

As always, should you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to ask. With many thanks for your continued support!

Kind regards and best wishes,

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