



## Caston Church of England Primary Academy Executive Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Disney

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Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome back after the festive Christmas break.

Over the next half term, during English lessons, we will be focusing on writing a 'Discovery Narrative based on the book 'On the Origin of Species'. Children will study our Geography topic of 'Mountains' and look at what makes mountains popular tourist destinations. In maths, we will continue our work on the four operations and dive deeper into multiplication and Ratio, Decimals and percentages. In science, the children will be looking at identifying living things and classification. Year 6 students will begin to prepare for their SATs which will be later in the year.

Reading is an integral part of education and it is important to read with your child as much as possible. After reading each time, the children need to write a sentence, about what they have read, in their reading journal to ensure that they are reading with comprehension and understand what the story is about. Please encourage and support your child to read, as according to research, students who read for pleasure make significantly more progress in vocabulary, spelling and maths than children who read very little (Sullivan and Brown 2013).

As usual your child will receive weekly spellings with handwriting practice. The children will also have a weekly piece of homework. I provide a printout for homework each week so there is no reason for children not to complete it and give it in. All children's Maths homework is accessible on Smash Maths, to which each child has their own individual login. Please encourage your child to complete their homework as it consolidates their learning and helps the children to retain the information.

P.E. shall continue to be on a Tuesday and a Thursday. This half term we are lucky to have external cricket coaches on Tuesdays and Premier sports - for Dance - on Thursdays. Please ensure that your child comes to school with a P.E. kit on these days. We recommend a P.E kit is kept in school and we will send it home every half term to be washed, or when we feel it is necessary. Your child will need an outdoor P.E kit (Jumper/joggers/leggings/trainers) as we will take them outside as much as possible. Hair must be tied back for PE lessons and earrings removed (taped only if they cannot be removed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please do come and speak to me.

Mrs Wickers

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"Ask and it will be given to you; Seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Matthew 7:7