



6th March 2020

Dear Parents,

Information Letter 2 Spring Term 2020

Brain Research UK Evening Event

Tomorrow evening there will be an exciting event at the Norton Parish Hall to raise money for Brain Research UK. Miss Morris' daughter Shereen Richmond has organised an evening of entertainment from 6.30pm until late and all money raised will go to the charity that is very close to our hearts.

It would be lovely to see you there. Tickets are £5. If you are unable to attend, we are also selling raffle tickets. There are many great prizes to be won but more importantly, the funds collected will contribute towards the vital research this charity undertakes.

Curriculum

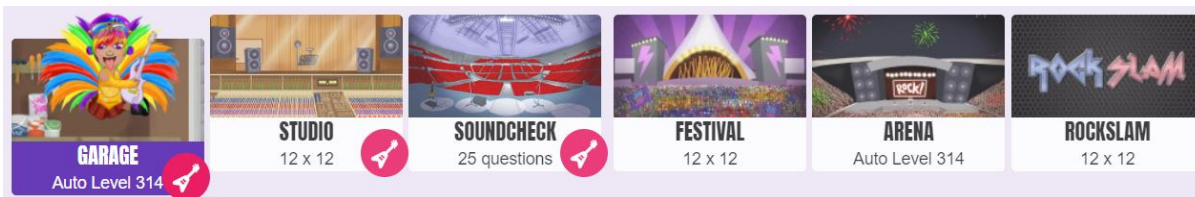
Many thanks to Mrs Marshall for leading a very useful curriculum session for the reception parents last night. During the forthcoming parent consultation evenings, there will be information about the whole curriculum for the rest of the school and an opportunity for parents to ask questions. We will also be distributing parent leaflets containing information about the foundation subjects. These guides will complement the reading, writing and maths guides given out during the autumn term.

TT Rockstars

The Key Stage Two pupils are thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to improve their multiplication tables by playing TT Rockstars. Here are few reminders about the program:

Research has shown that the program has huge benefits in supporting the children to make good and accelerated progress with the fluency and recall of their tables. In order to support your child with making good progress, the game needs to be played little and often.

There are different modes within the program.



Garage mode is the area where the children focus on practising

the times table that has been identified from the Auto Training Mode. Regular practise here will support your child towards their next Gig (assessment).

Studio mode is the area where the children can practise all the tables up to 12x12. Within this mode, the children can improve their fluency speed which improves their 'Rock Status' within the game.

Sound Check mode, this a good place for those children in Year 4 to practise for the Government times table check which will be happening in June. The children have 25 questions and 6 seconds to answer each question.

The Festival, Arena & Rockslam are multi-player games. The Rockslam is where the children can challenge other children to a game or challenge the teachers.



If you have any further questions or your child is having trouble accessing TT Rockstars, please don't hesitate to come in and speak to Mrs Shoukry.

We will be launching Numbots in the next few weeks. This is a super online resource to support our children's maths education in Early Years and Key Stage 1. It is from the creators of Times Tables Rock Stars and is great for boosting addition and subtraction skills.

Coronavirus

Here is an update about the school's actions in response to the covid-19 outbreak. First and foremost, we are following Public Health guidance. The specific guidance for educational settings can be found here for those who wish to see that:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19#section-9>

Looking forward, there are a lot of potential issues to consider. At the moment, the best advice is to practice high hygiene practices as much as possible in all areas of our lives. We have covered the importance of handwashing during assembly on Monday. It would help if you can reinforce the messages at home about the following:

- Carry tissues to catch coughs and sneezes; bin them and wash hands (Catch it, bin it, kill it)
- Wash hands regularly – before and after eating, use of the toilet, when leaving for school, when coming home and before and after sport.

We have altered some of our cleaning regimes to focus more closely on high touch areas – doors, door handles, keyboards etc. We are happy for your child to bring their own hand sanitiser to use if you wish. The handwashing advice though, is that soap and hot water is equally effective.

We do not have reason to believe that pupils at school are at any more risk than any individual elsewhere in Worcestershire or West Midlands. We do, though, think it prudent to take a lead on reducing the possibility of transmission where we can. That aside, the advice to schools is to carry on as normal. Finally, the advice to individuals who feel unwell with symptoms of coronavirus is to keep away from others, stay at home and call 111.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Dean
Headteacher