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# Alice in Wonderland, The Faraway Tree and Paddington Classes Newsletter Spring 2019

Dear Families,

We hope you had a lovely Christmas break and would like to welcome you back to the start of the Spring Term. This letter will provide you with a few updates about what is happening in Reception in the coming weeks.

## Let there be Light:

Our topic for this term is called 'Let there be Light', and this is in celebration of the invention of the light bulb by Thomas Edison. We are going to be looking at electricity, inventions, space, time and nocturnal animals and are hoping for a trip to Cowes Lifeboat Station. We would love to visit other places or have visitors into school linked to this topic. If you can help with this, please let us know. A topic jigsaw has already been sent home to give you further information about it.



## Tapestry:

A very big thank you to all the families who have accessed Tapestry so far. There are still a few families that we need to get on board and we will be speaking with you about the best way to support you with this. Whilst lots of families are logging in and posting comments, we are hopeful that more will begin to share things their children are doing at home. Photos and videos from home are an extremely valuable contribution to our assessments. If you have any questions, please ask us and we will help in any way we can.

## Class Dojo:

We hope you are finding Class Dojo a useful tool, particularly for communicating with your child's class teacher, as well as seeing what is happening in Reception. We try to aim to respond to any messages as soon as possible, however, we cannot guarantee to respond during teaching hours. If there is a message about illness or collection arrangements, please telephone the main office, rather than messaging us on Dojo in school time, to ensure we do not miss anything.



### Home Learning Grids:

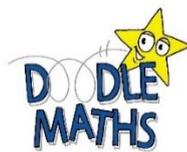
A very big well done to all children who completed home learning activities during the Autumn Term. We hope you found them enjoyable. A new Home Learning Grid for the Spring Term has already been sent to you with lots of ideas for home learning activities, which can then also be shared on Tapestry. Please feel free to adapt these activities as you wish.

### Learning Updates

P.E. continues to be on a Monday morning and the children will also continue to have opportunities to lead their own learning on a Friday afternoon, as part of their Explorability groups.

We sent home a new set of flashcards to coincide with the next phase of phonics just before Christmas. We cannot stress enough how just a few minutes practise each night really makes a difference to your child's reading. We are so pleased with the number of children completing our 'Regular Reader' reward scheme and we will continue to run it this term. Children need to have reading at home recorded in their Reading Records at least 4 times a week to earn a sticker. If they collect a sticker each week, they gain a certificate that term.

We would also like to remind you that all children have a login and password for Doodle Maths. We have had some fabulous feedback from those children who have accessed it and it is a brilliant way to spend just a few minutes each day reinforcing basic maths skills. If you have any difficulties with accessing Doodle Maths, please speak to your child's class teacher and we will help.



We would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you for all your support so far this year. We are looking forward to all that the next term will bring and, as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to us.

Best wishes

Miss Hopkinson, Miss Wren, Mrs Hinkley and the Reception Team