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**Priory CE Primary School**  
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"Be the best that you can be"

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Reception Spring 1 2019 Newsletter

Happy New Year! We hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas holiday, full of fantastic memories and delicious food! The Reception Team have been busy planning a fantastic topic to start the New Year. Your children are going to love the adventures we go on over the next half term as we travel through time and space exploring dinosaurs, knights and dragons and life on the moon! During this term the children will look at aspirations, dreams and goals, as we explore our new personal and social topic, with Jigsaw Jenie.

#### **Where shall we go today?**

**Week 1:** Where could we go? The first week allows us to explore our imaginations as we share the story 'Beryl's Box'. The children will use the boxes to decide where they would go if they could travel anywhere at all.

**Week 2:** How does a rocket work? As we read 'Whatever Next' we learn about life as an astronaut and what it might be like to be in a space ship. The children will learn about Tim Peake and his work in space. Don't forget, if you signed up to join us when the lovely 'Little Library Van' visits, this will be on Monday 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Week 3:** What would you take to the moon? This week the children will be learning more about our solar system and why we live on the planet Earth and not Mars. They will explore what we would need to take to the moon and why. This week we will also be celebrating 'Maths Fest'. This is for the whole school on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January and will be a fun day promoting the maths curriculum. **The children can dress up in anything maths related....a shape, favourite number song character, Albert Einstein! Get thinking!**

**Week 4:** Would all dinosaurs eat you? This week we travel to the land of the dinosaurs as we discover a visitor in our room. The children will learn about different dinosaurs and how we find out more about them as they learn about Palaeontology.

**Week 5:** Could you survive with the dinosaurs? We will be learning about life as cave people and how it is different to life now. It is 'Safer Internet' on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February, we will be reading the story of Smartie the Penguin.

**Week 6:** Can you train a dragon? Where have we been? The children will enrol in knight school and learn what it was like to live in a castle. We will also reflect on our learning over the term as the children will use their imaginations to share what they have found out. We will also hold parents evening this week, information for which will be sent out later this term.



Daily phonics and maths will continue. We will send out a group message highlighting what is being covered in your child's phonics group, so you may practice these areas at home. Guidance is given in the Phonics Workbook that was given out at the start of the year. Three activities from this book should be completed each week and the diary signed accordingly. This will be tracked and used to inform the Record of Achievements. The expectation is that you read with your child 3 times a week and complete the 3 phonic activities, which will constitute a 'green' comment on the Record of Achievement. Less than this will be 'amber' or 'red'. PE will be on Wednesday mornings. Please make sure you send in a labelled kit to keep in school.

We really enjoyed getting to know you all in the Autumn term and have valued the relationships we have built with you. Let's keep this going! Please do contact us at anytime if there is something you wish to discuss.

All Reception children will have the opportunity to take part in a Science Workshop run by Sublime Science where they will explore a number of experiments and make their own space slime. This will be held in school on **29<sup>th</sup> January**, as this is provided by an external company, the cost of taking part is **£5.60** per child. This will be added to Parent Pay by the end of the week.

The Reception Team

