



Spring 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you have all had an enjoyable time over the Christmas holidays. I am looking forward to an exciting term packed full of new learning experiences.

Year 3's Topics and Themes

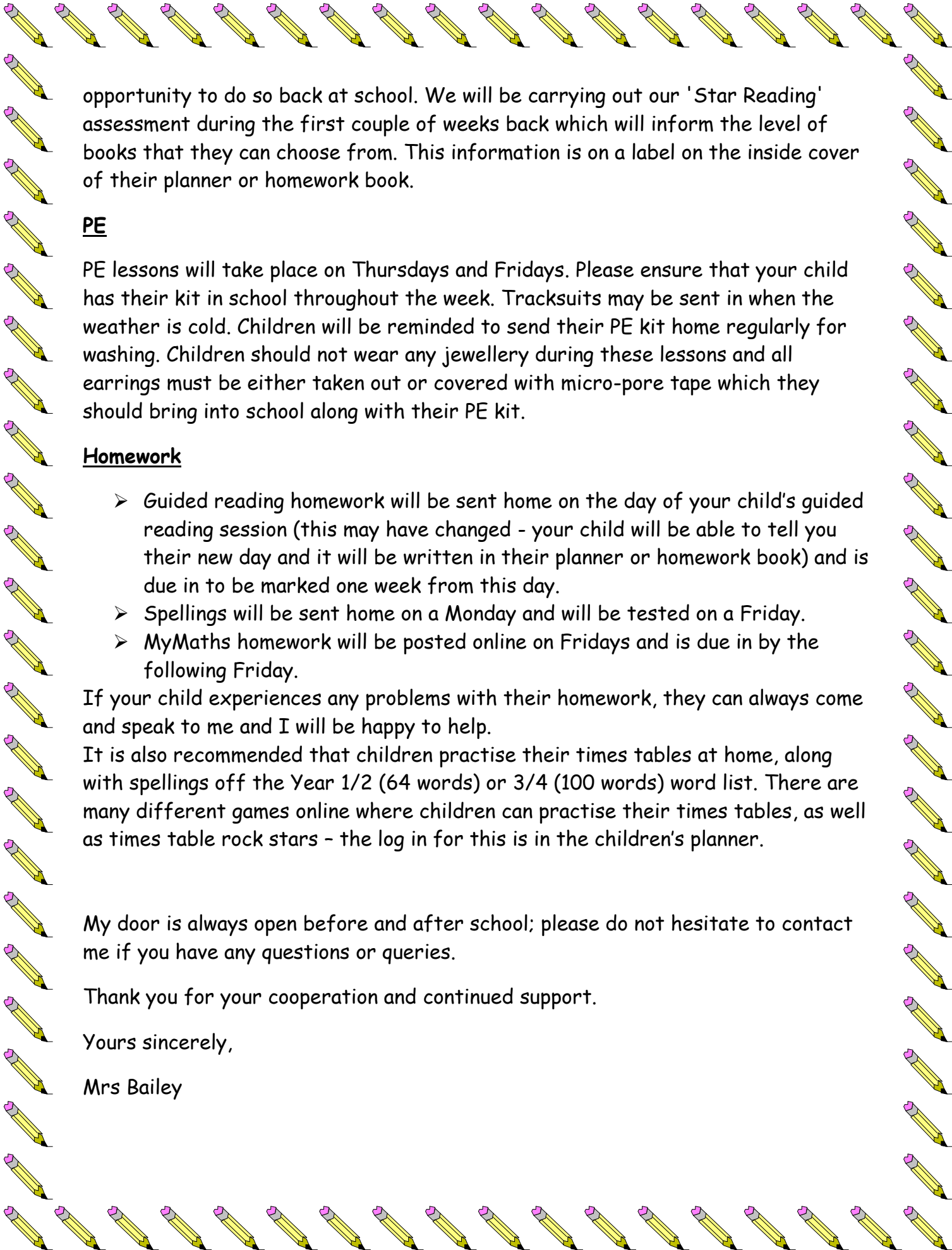
This term's main topic will be based around Antarctica. We will be learning about where in the world Antarctica is, including which climate zone it falls into. The children will be immersed into what life is like in this polar region, exploring the landscape, seasons, weather, wildlife as well as learning about different explorers who have set out on expeditions to reach the South Pole.

Many areas of this topic will be cross-curricular through English, maths, art, history, geography and computing. Our first Science topic this term will be concerned with forces and magnets. In our second topic, animals including humans, we will be investigating the different parts of the body. We will also explore what is needed for the body to be healthy and grow and look at the differences between the bodies of animals and humans.

Throughout the term, we will be concentrating on improving our presentation, spelling and engagement of the reader through the production of a variety of different written pieces. The children will also be encouraged to read a wide range of texts, both to improve their reading fluency and also for pleasure! I would be grateful if you would continue reading with your child for enjoyment and to ensure they are reading with understanding and fluency.

Accelerated Reader

As you know, your child can bring an Accelerated Reader book home with them to read with you or independently at their leisure. They may also access the associated quiz through our website (log-in details in planners) when they have finished the book. (Please note, quizzes are only available during the week). If your child reads a book at home but is unable to access the quiz, they will have the



opportunity to do so back at school. We will be carrying out our 'Star Reading' assessment during the first couple of weeks back which will inform the level of books that they can choose from. This information is on a label on the inside cover of their planner or homework book.

PE

PE lessons will take place on Thursdays and Fridays. Please ensure that your child has their kit in school throughout the week. Tracksuits may be sent in when the weather is cold. Children will be reminded to send their PE kit home regularly for washing. Children should not wear any jewellery during these lessons and all earrings must be either taken out or covered with micro-pore tape which they should bring into school along with their PE kit.

Homework

- Guided reading homework will be sent home on the day of your child's guided reading session (this may have changed - your child will be able to tell you their new day and it will be written in their planner or homework book) and is due in to be marked one week from this day.
- Spellings will be sent home on a Monday and will be tested on a Friday.
- MyMaths homework will be posted online on Fridays and is due in by the following Friday.

If your child experiences any problems with their homework, they can always come and speak to me and I will be happy to help.

It is also recommended that children practise their times tables at home, along with spellings off the Year 1/2 (64 words) or 3/4 (100 words) word list. There are many different games online where children can practise their times tables, as well as times table rock stars - the log in for this is in the children's planner.

My door is always open before and after school; please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or queries.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Bailey