



St Nicholas Church Of England Primary School

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'Creating the space for your child to excel.'

23rd November, 2020

Our gift box of support for your child - Year 2 to Year 6

Dear Parents/Guardians

Our staff team here at St Nicholas continue to be very impressed with the children's attitude to learning. It is super to see how keen our children are to learn new things; it is also wonderful to see outstanding perseverance, determination and resilience in learning each day. They have done us all proud on their return to school since September.

Thank you for continuing to support your child at home. Now that a term has passed, each class teacher has set the children very clear next steps in their learning and, through the monitoring work I have done to date, it is clear that we now must step up the rigour in the basic skills.

The three areas of focus for post covid curriculum gap filling are clear from our assessment of each year group:

1. **Reading comprehension skills - answering questions about the text.**
2. **Multiplication and division tables recall and understanding of the number sentence**
- Eg. $4 \times 6 = ?$ $? \times 6 = 24$ etc
3. **Writing - sentence structure and punctuation skills; can each child (1) Say their sentence (2) Write a sentence that makes sense?**

Obviously, above all of this, is the well-being and emotional resilience of each child in our care. This term, all of the staff have done an outstanding job in prioritising this. Next term, we will continue with this as a top priority but, in 2021, it will also be with accelerated learning and heightened expectations of learning objectives in focused curriculum areas.

We have purchased a new resource to support home learning and practice of the multiplication and division tables. Each child will be given their learning box at the end of the term. Currently, the children are practising

how to use the resources in school. It has been proven time and time again, that multiplication tables knowledge and confidence, allows each child to access numerous other areas of Maths.

Please can I ask that when your child brings their learning multiplication box home, you work with your child to encourage them and play games/set challenges for them. These new resources will only have impact, if time at home is set aside to enjoy them and make them fun.

In school, the children have shown a high level of eagerness and excitement with having their own box of support.

We have bought each child 2 boxes of support (total cost approx.. £18/child) - one box of cards is for multiplication practice and the other is for division practice. Initially, one box will be sent home. The children will also be asked to bring their box to school each Friday for practice and updates of what they have been doing at home. Already, some of our older pupils have been very creative in thinking of fun ways to use the cards. The first Friday to bring the box back is January 8th.

There are many products on line for support with learning the tables. However, after much research in to this, these boxes are definitely the best resource for our children.

The box has three dividers which will help your child to focus what multiplication or division table they are to learn. The table cards then go behind this grey card. The structured nature of how the box works will make for healthy competing in school and at home.

If you need any help with anything, or have any amazing ideas, please do come and see us.

Thank you for your help with supporting your child's enjoyment of learning.

Mrs Alison Shearer