Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new term. We look forward to continuing to work with your children in the spring term. Communication between home and school is vitally important and we are always happy to discuss issues with you. Mornings are a busy time as the children come into school, so please arrange to see us after school unless it cannot wait until the end of the day.

Curriculum
Our Theme this half term is Marvellous Materials. During this topic we will be focusing on the properties of materials and how they change. We will also look at how different materials can be separated and we will observe how materials react when they are mixed together. After half term our topic will be The Really Wild Show. During this unit we will learn about the life cycles of animals, insects and birds. We will also talk about the reproduction of plants and animals.

Homework reminder
- Maths homework is given out on a Tuesday to be handed in on the following Monday.
- English homework is given on a Monday to be handed in on Friday.
- Spelling patterns to investigate or topic vocabulary to learn are usually given out on a Monday to also be handed in on Friday.

Reading reminder
Each classroom has reading racer charts to ensure the children read a range of genres. Your child is expected to read at least twenty minutes every day with an adult. The children are expected to keep an updated record of their reading in their Reading Diary and this is collected in and checked every Thursday.
The children need to ask an adult to sign their reading diary each time they hear them read. The date, page number and a brief comment needs to be made. Please refer to the reading initiative reminder letter.

General Reminders
- Children should have an ink pen AND blue cartridges in school at all times.
- Children should have their P.E Kits in school, including a tracksuit, at all times.
- They should also have their Reading Diary in school every day.
- They only need one pencil case, if any at all.

Family Assemblies
The proposed family assemblies for this term are as follows:
- Miss Edwards – Friday 27th January 2017
- Miss Caldecott – Wednesday 25th January 2017
Visits
We are hoping to have a visitor in school to talk to the children about the life cycles of different insects, reptiles, birds and mammals. We will provide you with more details in due course.

As you may also know we are currently planning a trip to France so the children can develop the language they are learning. We will also be sending home a letter containing more information shortly. On Thursday 2\textsuperscript{nd} February we are hoping to watch the drama students at St John Payne in their performance.

P E Days
Miss Edwards – indoor P.E on Tuesday and outdoor games on Thursday.
Miss Caldecott – indoor P.E on Tuesday and swimming on Thursday.

Miss Edwards and Miss Caldecott