

## Shang Dynasty









### of Ancient China

#### Dear Parents,

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas break and are excited for a new term. For the next six weeks, we will be venturing to China to explore its magnificent geography and rich history. We will be exploring a range of stories, from the brilliant *Spilled Water* by Sally Grindley and traditional Chinese tales like *The Great Race* and *Yen-Shen*. Alongside this, we will learn about famous Chinese artists, reflecting on different techniques, and switch to biology in Science to engross ourselves in the animal kingdom. We will be celebrating Chinese New Year with a special off-timetable day, so keep your eyes peeled for more information on this soon.

Reading	Please read with your child at least three times a week at home and ensure that their reading record is signed and dated. We will be counting Reading Minutes on a Thursday and these must be signed by an adult to be counted. Year 6 should be reading at least 45 minutes per week and Year 5 for 30 minutes.
Spellings	Spelling tests are every Tuesday and your child will be tested on the spelling pattern they have learnt about that week. Children should be practising their spellings at least twice a week and we have included a 'Spelling Menu' in their homework books with ideas on different ways to do this. We will send home the term's spellings to help.
Maths	Maths homework will be set on a Tuesday and children will have a week to complete this.
Times Tables	Each child has a Times Table Rockstars login and should be practising their tables (either on this website or in another way) three times a week at home.
Grammar	Grammar homework will be set on a Tuesday. The page numbers will be sent home.

To help prepare the children for secondary school, in Year 5 and 6, all homework is expected to be completed and handed in on time. The children will complete any missing homework in school time.

#### Helping to enrich our topics

It is always great to have items or visitors that support our topic, so if anyone has any experience or items that may help us with any of the work above that we could hear about or borrow, we would love to see and hear about them.

Reminders – Please can you make sure your child brings in a water bottle each day with fresh water, ensure all jumpers are labelled and bring a coat. PE on Monday and Friday for all children. Please ensure your child wears their PE kit, in line with school policy.

As always, many thanks for your continued support,

Mrs Riley and Ms Taiclet

#### Useful Websites:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z39j2hv

https://school-learningzone.co.uk/key\_stage\_two/ks2\_history/world\_history/the\_shang\_dynasty/the\_shang\_dynasty.html https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/geography-a-child-led-introduction-to-the-chinese-city-of-shanghai/zdrtvk7

#### Questions you could ask your child about their learning this term?

How were the Chinese Zodiac animals chosen? What are the famous landmarks of China? Who are the significant figures in Chinese history?



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