

**St Martin's Primary School**  
**De Porres Class**  
**Spring 1**

**Happy New Year!** I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas. We would like to thank you all for your good wishes and generous gifts at Christmas. They were very much appreciated. The children have returned to school with enthusiasm and are looking forward to learning more about our topic 'Frozen Kingdom'. The curriculum newsletter will be posted to the class page early next week.

**PE:**

I intend to do outside PE, as often as the weather allows, this term. Could you please ensure that your child has suitable trainers as part of their PE kit and warm clothing (leggings/tracksuit bottoms and a sweatshirt). We will also do a session of indoor PE.

**Homework:**

Homework will continue to be given out on a Friday. I have asked that homework is handed in by Wednesday the following week. It is important that homework is handed in on time and is produced to the highest standard. If your child is having difficulty completing the homework, please do let me know so that appropriate support can be given. I run a homework club during Monday lunchtime from 12.45-1.15. These sessions are intended to give the children an opportunity to seek assistance and clarification on any homework tasks that they are unsure of. I am happy for children to attend these sessions in order to complete a particular piece of homework but, as the session is for 30 minutes, children will be unable to complete all of the weekly homework during these sessions. I would encourage children to plan homework tasks over a number of days to avoid it being rushed in one evening. Please help your children by encouraging them to complete the homework to the best of their ability, and ensuring that it is handed in on time.

**Reading**

Children should read for a minimum of 10/15 minutes each evening. They should record their reading in their record book and, this should be signed by an adult and handed in each day in class. If children do not wish to read a book each evening, I am happy for them to sometimes vary their reading material and perhaps read a newspaper article or a website that you approve of. This can be recorded in their record book. The Bug Club has been restocked and I have allocated books where appropriate. Please do encourage your children to log in and read a book once a week. If they are unable to gain access to a computer at home I can organise access for them at school. Please e mail me if you need login information or if you have any queries with regard to Bug Club.

**Spelling**

In addition to homework, weekly spelling lists will be issued. Please encourage children to learn their spelling and, in particular the statutory words. These are particularly important for assessment of literacy work at the end of Key Stage 2 as children will need to demonstrate that they know the spelling patterns contained in these words. The full list of the statutory words is in the children's homework books.

If you have any queries, questions or concerns please do contact me. I am available most mornings from 8.30 am or you can e mail me at [ktilling@stmartins.reading.sch.uk](mailto:ktilling@stmartins.reading.sch.uk) . Thank you for your support.

Regards

**Mrs Tilling**

