

# Mortal Engines



Spring Term 2018

Base 4

Dear children, parents and carers,

I hope that you have all had a wonderful Christmas, enjoyed your break and are now all refreshed and ready for a very exciting new term. I really enjoyed being your teacher last term and I am looking forward to even more fun this term!

This term our school topic is ‘Where would we be without books?’ and our class book is ‘Mortal Engines’ by Philip Reeve; a truly sensational read! We will be following the city of London as it hunts its prey across the wastelands of the future. We follow the story of a lowly third-class apprentice as he and his frightening comrade search to save the world from the dangerous truth that London is hiding deep inside its walls. This book has been the winner of the Smarties Gold Award and The Blue Peter Book of the Year and is also currently being made into a film by Peter Jackson. It is a gripping read- one that you really can’t put down. Our learning will follow the path of the story; we will be learning about different civilisations and how they ruled their world, we will be delving into materials, what their properties are and how we can use them to our advantage, we will be exploring the UK, Europe and the Himalayas, we will be making our own 3D engines and look into design and architecture – and this is just a glimpse of our learning this term!

The organisation of the week is as follows; as usual the school doors are open from 8:45 and we expect the children to be in school no later than 8:55am, fully equipped with reading books, any completed homework, a healthy snack for break times and a coat! If there are any messages they can be given to the class teacher on the door. PE will be on a Thursday afternoon and continues to be taught by Sportscape. Please ensure all PE kits (warmer clothing included) are in school and clearly labelled. Our daily timetable remains much the same however we no longer have swimming on a Friday and now have cricket coaching on a Monday afternoon.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Guided Reading	Guided Reading	Guided Reading	Guided Reading	French/ English
	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Arithmetic
	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
	English	English	English	English	SPAG
Afternoon	Lunchtime	Lunchtime	Lunchtime	Lunchtime	Lunchtime
	Assembly	Assembly	Class Assembly	Class Assembly	Learning journey
	Cricket	Learning journey – Music	Learning journey	RE	
	Learning journey	Learning journey		P.E	
	Class story	Class story	Class story		Assembly

\*Learning journey covers all other curriculum subject areas

\*\*This timetable gives a general overview of the week and may change according to the needs of the class.

## Weekly Homework set on a Friday

There is an expectation that you always complete your homework fully and on time. The homework set will either prepare you for the following week's learning or recap the previous week's learning, and is therefore extremely important. You will be expected to practice your times tables, arithmetic and read daily. Homework club is available on a Tuesday lunchtime if you would prefer to complete the work set at school.

- Spellings, times table testing, and arithmetic will be tested on a Friday. It is expected that you practise the spellings given daily, at home.
- It is also expected that you read daily and that this is recorded in your reading diary- these are checked daily and rewards are given to those who read regularly. It is a real pleasure to enjoy a good book, if you haven't found something you love yet come and ask for help, that's what we are here for.
- There will be maths tasks to be completed online on Mymaths or Khan academy. If you are unable to complete the task set please let me know and I will arrange for you to complete it in school. It is vitally important that you learn the key facts to support your maths.

Can I please remind you that homework can only be marked if it is put in the basket in class, some of you are doing homework but not handing it in; remember you get team points and smiley rewards for homework but you must hand it in!

We will continue to work on our 'ACHIEVE' approach, something that Base 4 have become real experts on. It is really important that we recognise that getting something wrong is simply a step in learning and by the same token getting everything right means we have not learned anything new- we need a challenge!

**Ask** – always ask questions to further your learning

**Concentrating**- focus on your work and your task

**Help**- help others to learn

**Improve**- see your mistakes as an opportunity to learn.

**Engage**- engage yourself with your learning- take control of it

**Value** – value yourself; you are important and so are your classmates

**Explore** – explore your ideas and stretch your learning.

And finally, parent and carers, please remember that I am here for your child and just as you do, I want the best for them – if you have any concerns or worries, my door is always open.

Your Teacher,

Mrs Charlesworth

P.S

Please be aware that, although this is a text written for upper key stage 2 children, I have edited some sections of the book- I suggest that if you buy the book for your child, you pop in so that I can show you the sections I have removed.