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Swans Newsletter - Autumn Term 2, 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new half term in Swans with plenty of exciting things to enjoy as we head towards Christmas.

This half term the 3-week blocks that I will teach are on **Geography** and **Music**. In **Geography** our topic is called 'Angry Earth' and is all about volcanoes and earthquakes. We will become experts on how volcanoes are formed, the different types of volcano, the vocabulary we can use to describe their different parts and the layers of the Earth. We will evaluate whether living near a volcano can sometimes be a good thing for people and will imagine what it is like to experience a huge eruption. We will see how earthquakes are measured, how to survive one and find out what is meant by the 'Ring of Fire'. In **Music** we will be doing a range of activities based around the song 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams.

In **Maths** we will be building the children's confidence with fractions and look at units of measurement, both metric and Imperial. Support from home would be greatly appreciated with **times tables**, using the White Rose App, Hit the Button or the BBC Supermovers songs.

In **English** we will write a narrative based on the eruption of the super-volcano Krakatoa in 1883, concentrating on ways to describe emotions and build drama in a piece of writing. The children will then write an explanation of how a volcano erupts and produce posters to show off their writing and Geographical knowledge.

Our **Guided Reading** will explore various fiction and non-fiction texts and we will continue reading 'Wonder' by R.J. Palacio as a class book. A reminder that children are expected to read at home daily, for around 20 minutes, **recording this in their Planners**, and parents should please **sign once a week** to confirm this. I would really appreciate your support with reinforcing this most beneficial habit - which helps with so many aspects of our learning. Happy reading.

Our **P.E.** lessons will be gymnastics on Wednesday this half term, with extra lunchtime PE on Wednesday and Friday, so please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in school on these days. There will be 2 sets of **Home Learning** each week. Maths will go out on Tuesday and needs to be back in on Thursday; English/Topic will go out on Friday to be handed in the following Tuesday. **Spellings** will go out on Friday and be tested the following week.

Early Birds Booster sessions will take place on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8.30am in the weeks of 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th November.

Kind regards,

Mr Sharp

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KIRFs at Great Whelnetham Primary School

This half term we are very excited to be launching a new initiative to help develop children's fluency in mathematics and to complement their learning in school.

We would greatly appreciate your support in helping your child to learn **Key Instant Recall Facts** each half term. We expect children to practise their **KIRFs** at least 3 times a week. You will find the KIRFs document on the **Maths page of the school website**, where you can then scroll down to find the page which applies for your child's year group and for this half term.

There is a new KIRFs page for each half term throughout the year.

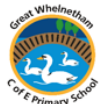
We have created these lists of KIRFs to align with the National Curriculum. They are designed to be challenging and it is intended that children will be taught the necessary maths in lessons beforehand. On each page, you will find details of the KIRFs, some important vocabulary and some Top Tips to help you with ideas of how to support your child in learning them **off by heart**.

Please have a look on the website and get involved with helping our children becoming maths masters!

Thanks for your support.

Sam Sharp

Maths Coordinator



Key Instant Recall Facts Year 1 – Autumn 1

To count to 50 in ones from any given number

By the end of this half term, children should know the following facts. The aim is for them to recall these facts **instantly**.

0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,
10,11,12 etc up to
and including 50.

Key Vocabulary

All numbers to 50

Forwards

What comes next?

What is 1 more?

They should be able to count accurately from the given number and cross the tens boundary with accuracy eg 29...to 30, 39 to 40.

Again - listen carefully to ensure the pronunciation of **-teen** and **-ty** numbers is correct

Top Tips

The secret to success is practising **little** and **often**. Use time wisely. Can you practise these KIRFs while walking to school or during a car journey? You don't need to practise them all at once; perhaps you could have a fact of the day. If you would like more ideas, please speak to your child's teacher.

Make a poster – We use Numicon at school. You can find pictures of the Numicon shapes here: [bit.ly/Numicon Pictures](http://bit.ly/NumiconPictures) – your child could make a poster showing the different ways of making 5.

Online Games http://www.ictgames.com/counting_cars_changecars.html
<http://www.ictgames.com/whackAMole/index.html>

Counting songs <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YtNskItyAOE>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=COuedSha1Dk>



Key Instant Recall Facts Year 4 – Autumn 2

I know the multiplication and division facts for the 6 times table.

By the end of this half term, children should know the following facts. The aim is for them to recall these facts **instantly**.

$6 \times 1 = 6$	$1 \times 6 = 6$	$6 \div 6 = 1$	$6 \div 1 = 6$
$6 \times 2 = 12$	$2 \times 6 = 12$	$12 \div 6 = 2$	$12 \div 2 = 6$
$6 \times 3 = 18$	$3 \times 6 = 18$	$18 \div 6 = 3$	$18 \div 3 = 6$
$6 \times 4 = 24$	$4 \times 6 = 24$	$24 \div 6 = 4$	$24 \div 4 = 6$
$6 \times 5 = 30$	$5 \times 6 = 30$	$30 \div 6 = 5$	$30 \div 5 = 6$
$6 \times 6 = 36$	$6 \times 6 = 36$	$36 \div 6 = 6$	$36 \div 6 = 6$
$6 \times 7 = 42$	$7 \times 6 = 42$	$42 \div 6 = 7$	$42 \div 7 = 6$
$6 \times 8 = 48$	$8 \times 6 = 48$	$48 \div 6 = 8$	$48 \div 8 = 6$
$6 \times 9 = 54$	$9 \times 6 = 54$	$54 \div 6 = 9$	$54 \div 9 = 6$
$6 \times 10 = 60$	$10 \times 6 = 60$	$60 \div 6 = 10$	$60 \div 10 = 6$
$6 \times 11 = 66$	$11 \times 6 = 66$	$66 \div 6 = 11$	$66 \div 11 = 6$
$6 \times 12 = 72$	$12 \times 6 = 72$	$72 \div 6 = 12$	$72 \div 12 = 6$

Key Vocabulary

What is 8 multiplied by 6?

What is 6 times 8?

What is 24 divided by 6?

They should be able to answer these questions in any order, including missing number questions e.g. $6 \times \bigcirc = 72$ or $\bigcirc \div 6 = 7$.

Top Tips

The secret to success is practising **little** and **often**. Use time wisely. Can you practise these KIRFs while walking to school or during a car journey? You don't need to practise them all at once; perhaps you could have a fact family of the day. If you would like more ideas, please speak to your child's teacher.

Songs and Chants – You can buy Times Tables CDs or find multiplication songs and chants online. If your child creates their own song, this can make the times tables even more memorable.

Double your threes – Multiplying a number by 6 is the same as multiplying by 3 and then doubling the answer. $7 \times 3 = 21$ and double 21 is 42, so $7 \times 6 = 42$.

Buy one get three free – If your child knows one fact (e.g. $3 \times 6 = 18$), can they tell you the other three facts in the same fact family?

Warning! – When creating fact families, children sometimes get confused by the order of the numbers in the division number sentence. It is tempting to say that the biggest number goes first, but it is more helpful to say that the answer to the multiplication goes first, as this will help your child more in later years when they study fractions, decimals and algebra.

E.g. $6 \times 12 = 72$. The answer to the multiplication is 72, so $72 \div 6 = 12$ and $72 \div 12 = 6$

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