

# Dormouse Class Newsletter 2026 – Terms 3 and 4



Dear Families,

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a relaxing Christmas holiday. We would like to thank you for all the Christmas cards, gifts and good wishes we received in December.

Our topic this term is '**Bright Lights, Big City!**' During this topic we will learn about the physical and human characteristics of the UK, including a detailed exploration of the characteristics and features of London. We will develop our **Geographical** knowledge through looking at maps, learning about the equator, hemispheres and continents, and will carry out simple fieldwork to find out about local physical and human features. We will learn about different types of settlements and carry out further fieldwork on a trip to Canterbury, where we will identify the features of a city as well as visit the Cathedral.

In **English** we will link our writing to our topic of 'Bright Lights Big City'. We will read a variety of stories and information books about cities and about London. Our writing will focus on postcards, stories and using imperative verbs to write directions from one London landmark to another.

In **Maths** we will be developing our understanding of place value to 20 by finding one more and one less, comparing and ordering number and using a number line to estimate. We will use knowledge of number bonds to 20 to help us when adding and subtracting and apply our knowledge to solving missing number problems.

In **P.E.** this term we will be taking part in Gymnastics sessions with a new coach, Mrs Linda from Take Pride. In these lessons we will work on jumping, rolling and balancing, and putting these elements into a sequence. We will also be learning a dance to a song from The Lion King. P.E. lessons are on a **Tuesday** and **Thursday**. Please ensure that your child has a full, named P.E. kit in school. For health and safety reasons, children wearing earrings will not be able to participate in P.E. lessons, so please ensure earrings are removed on our P.E days.

**Home Learning:** At the end of last term we sent home some tricky words for you to practise with your child. These will help with reading and writing. Please continue to read daily with your child alongside practising these words.

**Please ensure that your child's reading books are in their book bag and brought to school every day. This is vital as we will be reading with your child at school throughout the week.**

Your child also has a login for Numbots, which is a fantastic online maths resource to use at home. Please speak to a member of the Year 1 team if you are not sure how to access this resource.

## Diary Dates

- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January – Maths Family Event 0900-0930
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February/Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February – Film Night
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February – Y1 Trip to Canterbury Cathedral
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February – End of Term and Reports sent home

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind Regards

Mrs Thomas, Mrs Wickham, Ms Muzaita and Mrs Brown