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3rd September 2008

UPPER SCHOOL – AUTUMN TERM 2008

Dear Parents,

Welcome back from the summer holidays and I hope that everyone has had a relaxing time and is looking forward to the new school year. This letter outlines the work your child will be covering this term.

Our **Literacy** work will cover the standards set out in the Primary National Strategy. The children will be given **spellings** to learn at home each Friday, which will be tested on the following Friday. Please will you check that your child has their homework completed and that it is ready to be handed in on the appropriate day. Your children will also be encouraged to take their reading books home to enhance their reading.

Mathematics is also planned around the Primary National Strategy. There will be a piece of **maths homework** each week, which is to be handed in on a Monday, details of which you will find in the children's organisers. We would strongly encourage you to find out about your child's homework – and by all means help them with it if they ask you to!

In addition, homework projects will be set this term and should be completed over each half term. Specific details of these projects will be given to your child well in advance of the handing in date.

Our **Topic** this term will focus on Citizenship, looking at the Civil War as the beginnings of our system of government and then raising the question 'What would happen if a wind farm was planned in Sawtry?'. In **Technology**, the children will be designing and constructing musical instruments, whilst in food technology the children will be baking biscuits. In our **Art** lessons the children will be exploring ideas around a sense of place and creating pictures of landscapes.

The children will be learning about Light and Sound in **Science**, and will be investigating this topic through experiments and investigations. **Religious Education** lessons will focus on the Buddhist religion examining their beliefs. **PSHE** will focus on dealing with emotions and look at developing strategies for coping with a change in mood. Our **Music** lessons will link with our topic and explore the music of national anthems with the children composing their own school anthem. Our **Spanish** moves onto food and shopping.

This term's **PE** is a combination of tennis, gym and hockey which will help to increase fitness levels, coordination and balance. We would ask for your help in ensuring that the children have the appropriate named clothing at school for these lessons.

All the children have personal organisers, which they should bring to and from school each day. These are a useful form of communication between school and home, as well as serving as a helpful reminder of what your child needs to do or bring, so we would ask for your help in checking for any information on a regular basis. Letters and homework sheets can usually be found somewhere in the organisers!

We are all looking forward to a happy and successful term working with you and your children. If you have any questions about any of the work we are doing, or would like to offer to help in the classroom, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely

Helen Sargeant
Upper School Team Leader