Welcome back everyone! I hope you all had a fabulous half term. It’s hard to believe it’s our last half term as a class, so we are absolutely going to make the most of it!

This half term our exciting topic is ‘Castles’. The main driver for this is history and the children will learn about where and why castles were first built, how they have evolved over time, and who lived and still lives in castles. We will also be making our own castles, so please send in any old small cardboard boxes (such as shoe boxes) and tubes (for towers and turrets.) We are kick-starting this work with our whole school trip to Skipton Castle on Wednesday 12th June and will be having a Class One Castles Dress Up Day on Wednesday 19th June. Your child is invited to come to school dressed as a knight, a king, a queen, someone who lives in a castle, a castle guide (in jeans and a T-shirt) or similar. Please ask if you would like any further information, or would like to borrow one of the many costumes we have in school.

We will continue to make the most of the better weather and will be outside for PE this term. Please note that children will still need long tracksuit bottoms or leggings in case we use the playground, as well as shorts and waterproof trainers. Please keep your child's outdoor PE kit at school all week as we will go out more often if the weather is good.

In computing the children will continue to use PurpleMash to learn about questioning and to make their own animated story books. It would be highly beneficial for your child to have the opportunity to explore this website at home so that they can quickly and efficiently log in, find different programs and print and save their work. Each child took their personal log in details home last term, but please do ask if you would like an update. Thank you.

**Homework**

It is expected that children read or share a book with an adult at home for 10 -15 minutes every evening whenever possible. This could be your child reading their school 'scheme' book to you, them reading something else of their choice, you sharing a bed time story together, or any other reading you can think of, or that your child wishes to do. Please record any reading you have done in your child's reading record. We try to change books every Monday, Wednesday and Friday but we do need your signature to say the book is completed.

Our Year 1 children will have ‘Phonics Screening’ during the week beginning 10th June. This is when each child works 1-1 with me to read 40 real or pretend words which check their phonics ability. This is all very low key, and you will receive your child’s score with their annual report later this half term.

This half term Mrs Issitt will teach the class every Friday afternoon and whenever Miss A is out of school (which seems to be quite a lot!) If you would like to catch up with what we have been doing in class, please see either of us on the playground before or after school for a chat, or come to our weekly Friday certificate assembly at 9.00 am. Please note that we are unable to speak with parents after this assembly as it is then the children’s learning time.

If you would like any further information, or if you have any queries about your child’s learning, please do not hesitate to speak with either of us.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Miss Aldridge and Mrs Issitt