

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!

I hope you had a lovely break and that your child was looking forward to returning to school.

This term will be very busy – the term when Year 6 prepare themselves for SATs tests in May.

Our topics this term are on the mountain environment. In science we will be learning about the different rock types and the importance of, and differences between, types of soil. In the second half of term we will learn about plant anatomy and how plants use soil. We will also study electricity and forces.

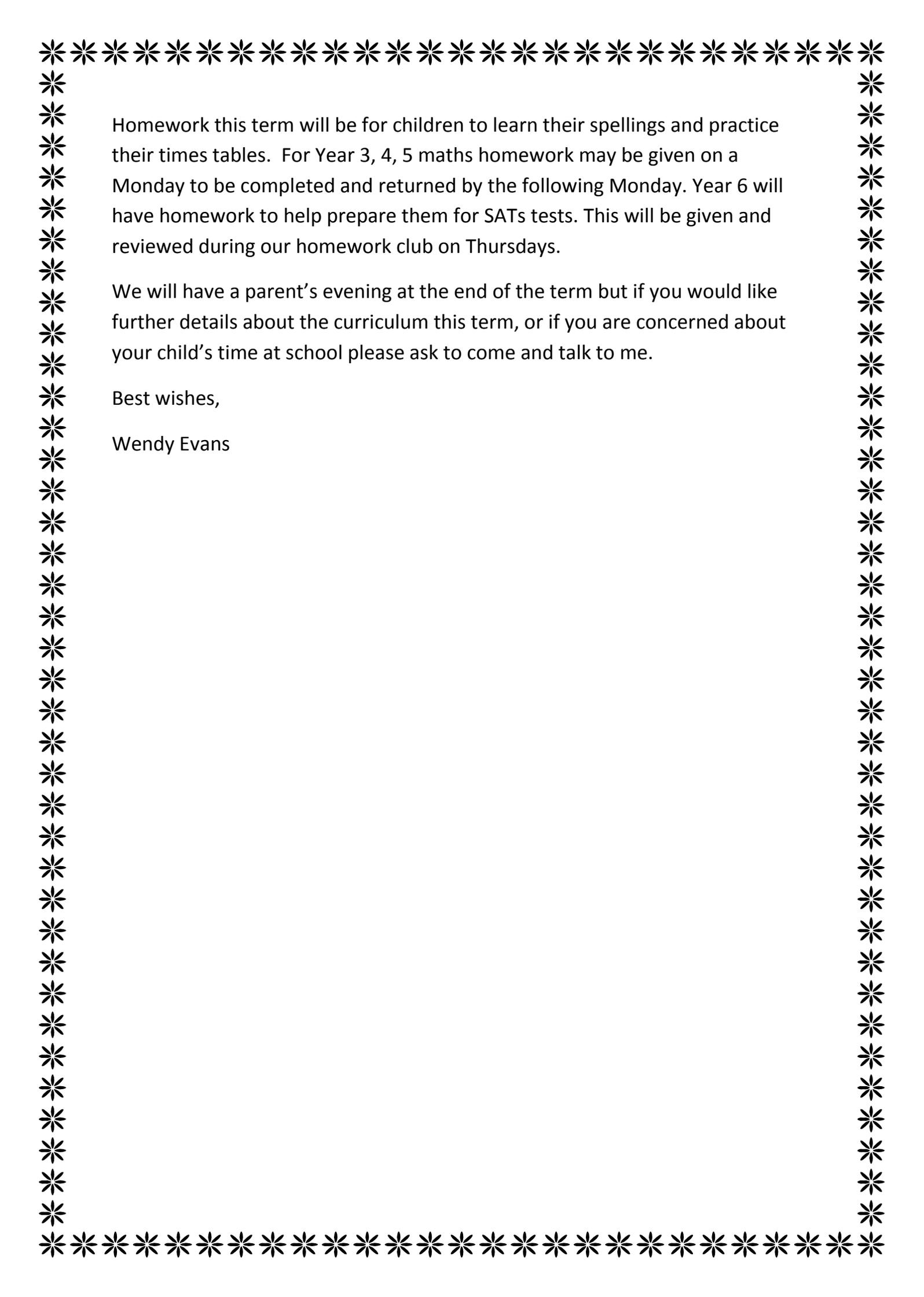
In geography we will learn how mountains are formed and shaped by the weather. We will identify different mountain ranges around the world and the mountains and hills in the UK. We will also compare life in the Andes to life in the Alps.

Our literacy will be linked to our topics as we write information text on glaciers and soil formation; diary accounts of a mountain experience and a newspaper report.

In computing we will continue to learn about internet safety and how to use database effectively. In DT we will create a design in weaving and study the weaving patterns from Peru. And in art this term, we will make observational drawings.

During the first half of term the whole of Torridge class will have Forest Schools on a Monday afternoon. Please make sure they come to school with a suitable change of clothes and warm hat, scarf and gloves.

Children have indicated they would like to learn to knit. I will offer a club to teach knitting afterschool on Wednesday. If your child would like to learn they will need **short, size 4 mm metal** knitting needles. These are available in Shaw's in Barnstaple, or from ebay for about £2.60. If parents would like to help at this club – or if parents would like to learn themselves - they are welcome to come along. If you have any Double Knitting wool we would be grateful for donations to the club.



Homework this term will be for children to learn their spellings and practice their times tables. For Year 3, 4, 5 maths homework may be given on a Monday to be completed and returned by the following Monday. Year 6 will have homework to help prepare them for SATs tests. This will be given and reviewed during our homework club on Thursdays.

We will have a parent's evening at the end of the term but if you would like further details about the curriculum this term, or if you are concerned about your child's time at school please ask to come and talk to me.

Best wishes,

Wendy Evans