Kestrels Class
Term 1 Newsletter
'Code Breakers: should codes be broken?'

Dear Kestrel's Families,

We are enjoying settling back into school life and exploring our exciting topics! This term, our main topic is ***'Code breakers: Should codes be broken?'*** and the children are exploring the theme of being a spy. We will be developing our understanding of different genres though reading *Storm Breaker* by Anthony Horowitz and comparing it to the film version. The children have developed their letter writing skills in their application forms to join Mi5 and are trying to crack codes dating all the way back to the Mayan Civilisation!

It is a fun-packed, eventful term with a dress-up spy themed Code Breaker day for the class… more details to follow! As part of our Code Breaker day, we would like to hold a 'Dragon's Den' style presentation session where each child will present a spy gadget of their own design and making! Please could we ask you to encourage your child **to create and make a spy gadget**. We have begun designing a gadget to support a series of literacy sessions but they are welcome to create a different one at home.

Reading	Please encourage your child to read at home and share this with you as much as possible. Reading at school and home is the best way to support your child's learning.			
Spellings	Year 5/6 statutory words revisited	Prefixes	Suffixes	Homophones
Maths	Maths and Spellings homework will be set **weekly** on a Friday to be returned on the following Thursday. The pages for this will be stuck into their homework books.			
To help prepare the children for secondary school, in Year 5 and 6, all homework is expected to be completed and handed in on time – we appreciate your support with this.				

Useful Websites:
https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/games/action-adventure/article/crack-the-code-1
http://www.mathplayground.com/break_the_code.html
https://www.braingle.com/games/codebreaker/
https://www.learninggamesforkids.com/changes-in-matter-games/carnival-of-changes.html

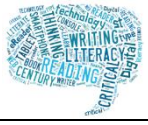
Important Reminders for Parents

- **Daily Essentials:** Please ensure your child brings a coat, fresh water bottle, and a labelled jumper every day.
- **PE:** PE takes place on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Children should bring their PE kits and trainers to school on those days.
- **OWL:** We will begin this in Term 3 (January)

Please do not hesitate to catch one of us before or after school, if you have any queries,

Emma, Lizzie, Louise and Tiff.

Term 1 'Code Breakers' Learning Map

Literacy 	**Descriptive setting- Villains' Lair**	**Information text about Spy Gadget**	**Formal Letter**
Maths	**Place Value**	**Calculation – addition and subtraction**	**Calculation – multiplication and division**
Science	**Properties and Changes of Materials**		
DT	**Packaging, Buildings and Weather proofing - linked to science and history topics.**		
History	**The Mayan Civilisation**		
PSHE	**Me and My Relationships**		
Computing	**Programming Music**		
RE	**Understanding Christianity: GOD: What does it mean if Christians believe God is holy and loving?**		
French	**How Can I Describe Myself?**		
Music	**Musical Messages and Notation**		
P.E.	**Football and Hockey**		