

Dear parents and carers of boys in Years 3 and 4

Congratulations to your boys on all that they have achieved and contributed at school this term. Sadly, it has not quite been the final week that we would have hoped for, but the boys are to be congratulated and thanked for how well they have coped with the circumstances. It has been lovely to see the Bedford School spirit shining through.

I would just like to mention two things to you at the start of the holidays.

#### HOLIDAY WORK

After a busy term at school, the boys should have a break from formal academic work for a few weeks. However, to help keep things ticking over, they should continue with plenty of reading and mental maths.

On the reading, you can use [www.arbookfind.co.uk](http://www.arbookfind.co.uk) to identify books that you could obtain one way or another that are within a boy's reading range. Also available to you is the Home Connect system that enables you to access from home detailed information about a boy's progress and engagement with his reading. Use your son's regular Accelerated Reader login details to [login to Home Connect here](#).

On the mental maths, [Times Tables Rock Stars](#) and [Numbots](#) remain our recommended ways to practise at home over the holidays. Merits will be awarded for good engagement during that time.

#### REPORTS

We hope you find the End of Term reports that have been written about your sons to be useful. You will notice that no marks or scores appear on Autumn term reports. This is because we want the focus in the first term of the academic year to be on establishing good learning habits. At the end of the Spring and Summer terms, parents are provided with their sons' marks accompanied by the year group median marks in Maths and English. Boys bring home marked assessment papers for parents to review as and when they are taken (there will be some English ones fairly early next term), so hopefully you will always feel sufficiently informed about attainment.

With very best wishes for a lovely festive season.

Daniel Maitland

Head of Years 3 and 4