Primary 2

September 2022

Dear parents and carers,

We trust you’ve had the opportunity to enjoy a restful break over the holidays and enjoyed the wonderful weather this summer. In class we’ve had a busy two weeks as we begin settling into class routines and getting to know our new classmates better.

Learning throughout the term

In school generally, and as a focus in circle time, our emphasis is on making good choices and being spotted by others making good choices. Our class rules are essentially the Golden Rules:

We are kind and polite in what we say and do

We are gentle with each other

We are honest

We look after our own and others’ property

We work hard

We listen and don’t talk when someone else is talking.

The rules have been expanded and discussed with the children’s input. We explored scenarios in the context of the whole school and emphasised that positive behaviours are expected in the whole school, not just in the classroom and playground. Again, we thank you for your support in encouraging your children’s awareness of these expectations and the importance of making good choices. We would also appreciate if you could support your child in reading and signing the Golden Rules section in their diaries.

In PHSE, (health and social education), we will be learning how to keep ourselves and others safe within a range of contexts, including relating to transport and travel. Children will also have the opportunity to help develop the P2 wildlife garden.

In literacy, children will continue to learn weekly sounds, to support reading, writing and speech, through Jolly Phonics. They will be working towards developing independent writing skills, with the focus being on children themselves correctly verbalising complete sentences. The emphasis on forming and saying their sentences accurately will build towards increasing independence and children writing their own sentences.

Homework

Please be reminded that all homework is an opportunity for you to share and support your child’s learning and understanding and not intended as assessment, therefore homework should not cause any unnecessary pressure or anxiety. Your support in dedicating time hearing and discussing weekly sounds, spelling and particularly reading is invaluable.

Spelling words will be given out on a Monday and children will be encouraged to complete one of the active spelling tasks sent out. There is no need to submit anything, please just encourage the children to learn the words by reading the words, pointing out the sound within that word and doing a practical activity from the list provided.

Reading will be starting shortly, and children will be participating in guided reading twice weekly in class, on differing days. Please check your child’s homework diary in order to support your child with their reading, sound and word decoding and word recognition. Please also engage children in discussion and question them about their book as well as sounding out and discussing tricky words. These are very important homework activities as they consolidate children’s learning and build confidence for reading in class and more generally their oral, reading and writing skills. When children develop a strong foundation in reading, their vocabulary and writing skills will build upon this foundation. We thank you for your support in this.

In numeracy, children will initially be revising number work including numbers 1-20, moving on to addition and subtraction to 20, thereafter the focus will then be on greater numbers.

We will be identifying what makes a pattern and children will be creating their own patterns. They will also be focusing on calendar and time work. Again, your support in helping children identify times, discussing days, months and seasons will develop understanding of these concepts.

Social studies

Our topic this term will be ‘Day and Night’. Throughout this topic, children will be learning about concepts including time, light, solar and lunar cycles etc. which will also link with our numeracy work. Any opportunity to engage your child in discussion along these themes will be valuable to supporting their learning in school whilst simultaneously broadening their understanding of the world around them.

P.E.

P.E will be with Mrs Storey on Tuesday and Miss Mellis on Thursdays. Please ensure children have comfortable clothing, including appropriate gym shoes, for these days.

Children’s Learning Celebration Books will be sent home when pupils have learning they wish to share, including when targets have been achieved. We would encourage you to comment in your child’s book when they have shared their learning with you. This feedback can be highly motivating for children, as we work together to demonstrate the significance of their efforts and achievements and support the building of confidence and self - esteem.

Class routines

Children will be having snack indoors during story time prior to breaktime. This is an ideal opportunity to send in chopped fruit or vegetables in reusable containers to encourage healthy eating, whilst having the added bonus of reducing plastic waste. This will underpin the school’s ethos and focus on building children’s awareness of their health and caring for the environment.

Housekeeping issues

As we’re sure you are aware, the loss of clothing and other personal items such as water bottles is an ongoing issue. To prevent the inconvenience and upset of this please ensue all items are labelled, especially jumpers, cardigans, jackets and water bottles.

Please discourage your children from bring personal toys from home as this may cause upset should they get broken or lost. We have ensured there is a wide selection of toys and activities for children to participate and play with in school.

Dates for your diary

Parent consultations

Wed 5th Oct 6-8:30pm & Thu 6th Oct 3:45-6:15pm-option of face to face or telephone call. Further details to follow.

We understand this is a lot of information to share, however should you have any further queries, please remember you can also keep in touch via homework diaries as necessary.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Muir and Mrs Storey.