

KS1 Autumn Term 2020

Dear parents and guardians,

Welcome back to you all and of course a special welcome to all our new children and families who have just joined us for the first time.

It has been great to see all the children coming back into class and settling down to school life so well after such an uncertain and varied time since they were last here.

Well done to all the Reception children too for making such a great start to their first week in school – we are really looking forward to getting to know everybody better over this term as they have already impressed us by fitting in with the Year 1s and Year 2s and adjusting to the school routines very well.

There have been lots of changes, not least to the school building as many of you have seen already! Staff were busy sorting out the old classroom and then setting up the new classroom in the main building over the summer and it is now a lovely space for the infants to work in and, with the addition of the group room area, it allows us to have separate spaces for different groups and lessons during the day which will be very useful in helping children focus more on their learning. It is also nice having that link to the past with using the old school building as a full time classroom again.

We will be trying to get outside for Forest School type activities through the term so, if you can, please make sure your child has in school a long sleeved top, long trousers, wellington boots and a pair of socks.

We will be doing a main PE lesson on Mondays with other sessions during the week depending on the weather so please would you ensure the children keep their named PE kit in school all week. As it will become colder, we recommend that the PE kit can include jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt for when we are outside.

Our main topic focus will be on the 'Weather and Seasons' alongside 'This Is Me' as part of our settling in at the start of the school year so this will be linked in through much of our curriculum to help tie the learning together in a creative and meaningful way. Please see the curriculum overview for more details on what we will be looking to cover in the different subjects.

For reading this term, we will only be changing the reading books for home on Fridays when the children will get a chance to pick books for the following week. It is important that children read at least 3 times a week so please record this in their Reading Record. As well as recording these reads, you can also add in other times they have read, for example any instructions you've used at home, recipes while baking, information for research or hobbies. It is really useful to include a good range of texts wherever possible and so it would be great to see this recognised alongside their book reading.

We will be doing a spelling test on Mondays with the spellings going out on the Tuesday. Children will get a chance to go through and look at spellings during the week in school but will of course need to practice them at home too. There will be suggestions for activities that can help make this more varied as part of their homework and also useful in their English work generally.

There will be more information going out about Maths homework, including online programmes such as Numbots where the children will have individual logins which can be used at home.

Thank you for your help and support with the school and your child's learning, particularly at the moment with all the necessary adjustments people have had to make over the last few months.

As mentioned in a previous letter, under the guidance to schools in the current circumstances, coming onto the site and into the school building without an appointment is not allowed but if you do have anything that you would like to discuss then please email or telephone the school where we can respond or if necessary an appointment can be made with us.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Mitchell, Miss Howell and Mrs White