

Class 1 Autumn 2023

Hello everyone! I hope you had an amazing summer holiday! We can't wait to catch up with all of you.

It has been so lovely this week to see all the children and to see them settle happily into class. A big well done to all those new children and parents who have joined us this week It is such a big and emotional milestone to see your child start school or a new school!

My PPA will be on a Wednesday morning so Mrs Johnston will be in our class with our children to teach computing and music.

You will find attached a Curriculum Overview of what we shall be covering this term. We will continue to use Dojos, stickers and certificates as our classroom rewards!

PE kits should consist of a white t shirt, navy/black shorts or jogging bottoms and plimsolls or trainers. This term your child will come home wearing their kit so please can it be returned to school the following day. Please can all clothing be clearly named too. Thank you! PE, this half term, starts on Tuesday 12th September.

We cannot stress enough the importance of reading with your child daily. Reading is the fastest way to build vocabulary. Children learn 4,000 to 12,000 words per year through reading!

A few years ago, we purchased a new phonics scheme called 'Little Wandle' with some brilliant new reading books. These match the phonics being taught perfectly. The majority of our children will be reading the 'Little Wandle' book three times in school (once for decoding, once for prosody and once for comprehension) before the book goes home to you. By the time they read with you at home they

should be 95% fluent. Please don't think the book is too easy. They will be reading for a fourth time with you. With our reception children we will start a bit differently and provide books with no words to begin with. These books, however, are so useful for generating discussions and questions of what they see. There are also some children who are 'free readers' who will be reading other books.

As often as we can, we will also be sending home a 'reading for pleasure' books. These are for you to enjoy with your child. There will be some words that your child will be able to read but the emphasis is to just enjoy sharing a book together! Please continue to write in your home reading diary daily. You can comment and also let us know if you read other books for pleasure at home.

Homework for Years 1 and 2 will be set weekly. Year 2 spelling tests are on a Friday morning but the test will not happen until the second Friday back. The spellings are stuck in a book which they keep in their book bags! Year 1s (and some other Year 2s) will also be getting spellings in their spelling books on a Friday and the lowkey informal test will happen the following Friday.

'Show and Tell' will be happening shortly as well. This will also happen on a Friday and two or three children will be picked to show their amazing thing a few days before. As this is the case, can we not bring in toys or cute cuddly critters on any other school day.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions. You can email the office or speak to me and I can then arrange a time to have a conversation as it can be difficult first thing or at home time when seeing the children out!

One last thing - can we please provide water in the water bottles!

Here's to a happy half term!

Mr Johnson