

Monday 11th September 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to school and to a new academic year! It has been lovely to see the children settle back into school. I thought I would inform you of a few things that you will need to know about.

Curriculum Overview

Attached to this letter is an overview of the learning that has been planned for this term. In Science, we will be focusing on 'Animals including humans', before moving onto 'Light and Sound'. In Geography, we will be looking at tourism and how food and natural resources are exchanged to different countries through international trade and in History, we will be exploring The Anglo Saxons.

Homework

Homework (English and Mathematics) will be set on a Thursday via the Seesaw App. If you are not using Seesaw, then it will be given directly to your child in their homework book, for it to be completed and handed in by Tuesday of the following week. We encourage parental involvement in homework, especially if your child is experiencing difficulties. However, if they do need further support, please advise them to come and see me, or via the Seesaw app or on the parent feedback on their homework sheet.

Spellings

Weekly spellings, and the associated spelling rule, will be sent home on a Monday via the Seesaw app and with your child via their Home Spelling Log book. The children will need to learn their weekly spellings, and its rule, ready for a spelling test on Thursday of the same week. Children who get more than one spelling wrong will have intervention support and will be retested on Friday or Monday. It is very important that your child develops confidence in spelling a range of familiar and unfamiliar words as well as understanding the rules that need to be applied in order to spell such words. Therefore, your support in helping your child is very much appreciated.

Reading

To evidence your child's reading, they will be given a reading record book. Your child should read at home both independently and to an adult on a regular basis (daily, if possible, but at least 3 times a week). In addition, it is important to discuss what your child has read to help develop their reading comprehension skills. Each time you hear your child read, record it in your child's reading record book. The children have been told the expectations of how they should record their reading and this information is also at the front of their reading record book. Their reading record book and reading book **need to be in school every day** so that adults in school can hear your child read and record their comments. You may find these remarks can help you to further support your child at home. To allow children to experience a wide range of literature, at the back of your child's reading record book is an age-related book list. The children are to read three books from this list each half term in addition to other books/magazines/graphic novels they may want to read from home. They also have their own barcode to book out/in school library books and their SeeSaw login details. We are planning book-related events through the year, so keep a look out on the school newsletter/app and via emails/letters.





Maths Skills

For Maths, there is a need for quick recall of all times table facts up to 12 x 12 and an expectation that children have a bank of known key facts, which they can recall instantly. Each half term we will have a different focus on a set of Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs) and a copy will be sent home. Please spend some time each week helping your child to learn these facts as well as their times tables as these skills will be invaluable to their progress and ability to apply their maths skills.

P.E. and Forest School

A P.E. kit (a pair of navy/black/grey tracksuit trousers/jogging trousers/shorts/skort a white t-shirt/polo shirt and daps/trainers.) will be required for P.E. on a Monday and Wednesday afternoon, however their full P.E. kit should be in school at all times as they may need their trainers for Run a Mile or a physical activity throughout the week. Please ensure your child has the correct kit for lessons and all items, including their school uniform are clearly labelled. No jewellery is to be worn and earrings must be removed.

Throughout the week, we will continue to do our Daily Mile (Run a Mile) to promote being active and having a healthy lifestyle and to help your child concentrate in the classroom. Please ensure that children have a pair of trainers or daps in school, so that they can change into after lunch.

On a Tuesday afternoon, the children will have Forest School. Please refer to the bottom of the newsletter or the school app to find out which dates your child will be involved in forest school and the clothing they need to wear.

Uniform

Please ensure that all uniform and P.E. kit is clearly named, so that if any items of clothing are found, we can reunite them quickly.

Healthy Snacks

As you may be aware, as a school we are focusing on eating healthily throughout the school day. Throughout this term, we will be working on this through collective worships and in class activities.

For breaktimes, children can bring in a healthy snack (no chocolate, crisps or sweets) if they wish such as some fruit/vegetables or a cereal bar.

School Houses

As you are aware, the children are in houses (Red Dragons, Blue Pegasus, Golden Griffins, Green Phoenix). While half termly whole school events are planned, the children can be awarded house points for their homework, learning their spellings and times table facts, reading at home, TIPTOP learning behaviour and for applying the school rules of Being Safe, Being Ready and Being Respectful. Each house point is valued because each term the winning house enjoys a chosen activity while the winning house at the end of the year enjoys a chosen morning/afternoon event.





I am looking forward to working together to ensure your child is happy, safe and that they achieve their full potential. Should you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me/email me – swilliams@goodrich.hereford.sch.uk or see me at the beginning/end of the school day on the gate.

Best wishes

Miss Williams

