

Tuesday 10th September 2024



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to school and to a new academic year! I hope you have all had a lovely summer and a good break. The children have been sharing all the things they have done and the places they have been. It has been lovely to hear all their news and see them 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, Light and Sound and learning about the famous scientist, Thomas Edison. In Geography we will be looking at maps of the world and learning about the continent of Europe and in History, we will be learning all about the Ancient Egyptians.

Homework

Most homework will be set on Seesaw and, now that the children have their own iPad to use in school, we will be using Seesaw as an integral part of classroom practice to capture our learning in lessons, alongside work in our exercise books. Log ins for the Seesaw app can be found in the back of their reading logbooks. Homework will be set on a Thursday via the Seesaw App. Homework is expected to be completed 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.

Spellings

Weekly spellings, and the associated spelling rule, will be sent home on a Monday via the Seesaw app. 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 on Friday and will be retested on the following 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 to spell such words. Therefore, your support in helping your child is very much appreciated.

Reading

To evidence your child's reading practises, 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.

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 and added to Seesaw. Please spend some time each week helping your child to learn these facts as well as their times tables as these will be invaluable to their progress and ability to apply their maths skills.

P.E. and Forest School

A P.E. kit (white t-shirt, navy or black shorts and a pair of trainers) will be required for P.E. on a Monday and Thursday afternoon, however their full P.E. kit should be in school at all times as we sometimes have these lessons on different days or extra physical activities that may require a change of clothes or shoes. 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 they have a pair of trainers or daps in school, so that they can change into.

On a Wednesday 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 quickly return them to your child.

Healthy Snacks

As you may be aware, we focus 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 Rule Focus – Being Respectful

During the summer term several of the classrooms have been painted, a new history timeline has been put on the wall outside of Woodpecker's Classroom, the reception area has had a make-over, the nook has new flooring and shelving, and area of the playground have had new planting. We think our school looks great and we very much want the children to enjoy and benefit from the environment and the resources. Therefore, we will be encouraging the children to show respect and work together to look after the school, their books and equipment. This will be a school rule focus, whilst still being ready and safe. We would appreciate your support with this.

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

