

Monday 11th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Autumn Term

The children have already had a very busy first week in Wrens, visiting different areas of the school and learning about the routines of the class. We are going to enjoy helping the children to learn many new things throughout the year and will begin by thinking about the season of Autumn. If you have anything of interest related to this topic, then we would be happy to share it with the class.

We will be spending time with the children engaged in a range of adult and child-led activities to find out what they already know and the skills they need to develop throughout the year. In addition, all Reception classes must complete a Baseline Assessment within the first half term of the children starting school, which we will be carrying out as short fun games with each child.

Staffing

In Wrens, the children will be taught by Miss Price and supported by Mrs Babbage. On Tuesday afternoons the children will be taught by Miss Price and Mrs Mutlow. On Wednesday afternoons the children will be taught by Mrs Babbage and Mrs Daniels or have their Forest School session with Mrs Lafford and Karen.

Reading

This year we will be starting a new reading scheme called Little Wandle which has been proven to have excellent results in children's fluency and comprehension skills when reading. This means that the way we read with children will look different. You will shortly receive an invitation to join us for a meeting so we can share what this is going to look like.

We will be sending home a star book alongside the Little Wandle books to develop a love of reading, these aren't for your child to read but to have quality time together to talk about the story, the characters, their favourite parts, they may also notice some repetitive language. Share together and then write a short review together in their red 'Home Library Review' book. Details to follow.

Homework

Activities which help the children to reinforce the literacy and mathematics skills they have been learning throughout the week will also be set on Seesaw on a Friday. All families who have given their consent for their child to use Seesaw will be given a personalised passcode and a letter explaining how to access the activities. Families who have not given consent will be given paper copies of their activities for their child to complete at home. Homework should be completed by the following Wednesday.

The Year 1 children will also be bringing home a set of spellings to learn throughout the week and this book should be sent back to school on Friday ready for their quiz.



PE

During the Autumn Term the children will be having PE sessions on Wednesday and Friday afternoons, but it is important that they have their P.E. kit in school every day. The P.E. kit should consist of:

- * **Short sleeved T – shirt** – plain white
- * **Shorts** – plain black or navy
- * **Tracksuit bottoms** – plain navy (for outdoor P.E.)
- * **Jumper / fleece** – plain navy (for outdoor P.E.)
- * **Socks** – white
- * **Black P.E. pumps** - suitable for physical activity inside and outside

Small stud pierced earrings can be worn but must be removed by the child or covered for all P.E. lessons.

Forest school

The children can come to school dressed in their Forest School clothes for their session every other Wednesday. Their first session will be on **Wednesday 13th September**. Children should come to school wearing trousers and a long-sleeved top and/or jumper with a pair of wellies to change into and waterproof coat and trousers or an all-in-one waterproof suit.

Other

We will be encouraging the children to be responsible for all of their belongings so please help them by ensuring that **all belongings** – each piece of uniform, school bags, Forest School kit, P.E. kit items, lunchbox and water bottles etc. are **clearly named** so that they can be quickly reunited with your child.

Please ensure that every day your child brings a coat (preferably with a hood) to school and that they wear sensible black shoes as the weather is so unpredictable. You may also like your child to have a spare pair of pants and socks in their bag just in case they have a toileting accident. If your child is sent home in our class 'spare clothes' please ensure that these are washed and returned to school as soon as possible.

Each child has a cup and access to drinking water throughout the day, but you may also like to send in a bottle filled with water.

We know that children like to bring in toys to show their friends in school, however we have many toys to play with in Wrens, so we ask that toys are not brought in from home.

If your child is unwell then please phone the school office before 9.30am to inform us of their absence. If they have sickness or diarrhoea they must be clear of symptoms for 48 hours before returning to school. Please remember to regularly check your child's hair for headlice and treat if necessary. If your child has longer hair please tie it up and this is particularly important on PE days.



If your child is being collected by someone different from normal, then please tell us in the morning or telephone the school office to let us know. If you do not arrive to pick up your child, they will wait in the school library, and you will be contacted. If we are unable to contact you, then we will telephone the next person on the list of people authorised to collect your child. Therefore, it is important that we are informed of any changes to contact details.

Please don't hesitate to speak to us in the morning or at the end of the school day if you have any concerns, queries or if there is any change that may affect your child through the day e.g. unsettled sleep, change in family situations etc, alternatively you can email me jprice@goodrich.hereford.sch.uk if you find this easier.

Kind Regards,

Miss Price and Mrs Babbage

