September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a lovely start to Year 2 Chestnut Class has had. It has been brilliant reconnecting with friends and sharing holiday news. The children have started lots of new learning today including place value work in Maths and creating a story map of the book ‘Silly Billy’ for English. They have also enjoyed the start of our History topic, The Great Fire of London.

The start of a new school year is always busy, with the added extra of this one being particularly different, so please can I make you aware of the following:

* We will encourage the children to be as independent as possible this year, however sometimes help from at home (and school) will be required.
* Just like last year, the children will be expected to complete homework. This will be either English, Maths, History or Science based. For the first 2 terms, this will be computer based on either Purple Mash or Doodle Maths – to avoid books having to quarantine. Tasks will be no longer than 20 minutes and will be set on a **Thursday** to be completed by the following **Tuesday**. Feedback will be given where applicable. Beginning **10.9.20.**
* The children will receive between 4-6 spellings a week, 4 relating to their phonic learning for the week and 2 of the Year 2 Common Exception Words. These will be stuck into reading journals every **Friday** and tested the following **Friday**. Beginning **11.9.20** to be tested on the **18.9.20.**
* Please can children be heard to read **AT LEAST** 3 times a week at home and could their books and journals come to school daily. This way we can monitor progress and change books when necessary. Reading regularly has such a positive impact in every area of a child’s learning, so your support with this would be much appreciated. Please could we also ask that you and your child wash your hands before handling the books and writing in the journals. We will be doing the same at school before they are handed back out. Completed reading books will be put on a 72 hour quarantine.
* P.E. is on a **Monday afternoon** this year. Please could children have the correct kit (Longvernal P.E. t-Shirt, black shorts or sports trousers and daps or trainers) in school for these lessons. We will be having P.E. outside for the first term, so warm jumpers can also be worn.
* Forest School is on a **Thursday afternoon**. Forest School lessons will take place regardless of the weather (unless extreme) so please can you ensure their kit has the appropriate items of clothing (warm tops, trousers, waterproofs, spare socks, wellies, gloves and a hat for colder months).
* Please note that kits will need to come in to school and will be sent home on the same day of the lesson. , to be washed. Children who do not have the correct kit will not be able to participate as we cannot provide spare kit.
* Finally, please could you **email** me with an up-to-date ‘approved pick up list‘ for your child, which we can update in the office. This should include anyone who may be likely to pick your child up at the end of the day. . For safety reasons, I will not let your child go home with anyone who is not on the list or been discussed with either myself or the office prior to pick up, regardless of whether the child knows the person or not. Thank you with your cooperation with this matter.

As ever, please do not hesitate to contact me **via email** before or after school, I will endeavour to reply as soon as possible. Thank you for all your support, considering this is such a different start to the year. Myself, and Mrs Leyman are looking forward to a brilliant year in Chestnut Class.

Kind regards,

Chrissie Richards

crichards@longvernalschool.com