

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 including place value work in Maths and beginning to write a narrative in English. We will also be starting our new History topic, The Great Fire of London.

The start of a new school year is always busy, 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 year, we will be continuing with Doodle Maths will be our homework of choice- with all children focusing on their personal maths targets set via the platform. In conjunction with this, children will also receive spellings and will be required to read. Ideally, we would like children to spend 20 minutes on Doodle Maths over the course of the week, however as long as it is being accessed, this can be done in a day or spread out. Homework and Reading Journals will be checked on a Thursday, with a 'fresh' week starting on a Friday. All children will have their Doodle Maths Passwords stuck to the front page of their Reading Journals. Homework and spellings will commence from **7.9.23**.
- ◆ 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 **Thursday** and tested the following **Friday**. Beginning **7.9.23** to be tested on the **15.9.23** and so on.
- ◆ 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. All children will be required to read R.W.I. scheme books twice, to aid their fluency of sight word recognition.
- ◆ P.E. is on a **Thursday morning** this term. Please could children wear the correct kit (Longvernal P.E. t-Shirt, black shorts or sports trousers and daps or trainers) to school on a Thursday. We will be having P.E. outside for the first term, so school fleeces or jumpers can also be worn.
- ◆ Forest School is on a **Wednesday afternoon**. Forest School lessons will take place regardless of the weather (unless extreme) so please can you ensure your child's is wearing the appropriate items of clothing; long sleeve tops and trousers on Wednesdays. Could children please bring their wellies and water-proofs in a separate bag to change into and out of during the day. Please note that it is extremely difficult to provide spare Forest Kits for individual children, so please ensure your child has got their wellies and waterproofs for Forest Lessons.
- Finally, please could you give the office with an up-to-date 'approved pick up list' for your child, which we can update in records. 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 either via email or speak to me before or after school, I will endeavour to reply, talk to you or set up a meeting if needed. Thank you for all your continuing support, I am really looking forward to a brilliant year in Chestnut Class.

Kind regards,

Cathy Day

