



Dear Parents,

I hope that you and your family had a lovely summer break, despite the Great British weather! The children have settled in really well and are making a great start on their work.

The class webpage will be updated each half term showing what we are learning and some pictures of what your children have been doing in class. There will be a copy of the topic web, which shows what they are learning, and you will also get a printed copy sent home. There is also the fortnightly newsletter to keep you up to date with important dates and information.

This year, Squirrels will be well supported by Mrs Lewis, so they have another familiar face in class.

### **PE**

This year, children have PE on a Tuesday with Mrs Lewis and on a Wednesday with myself. Please ensure they come to school in their correct PE kits (dark bottoms and white t-shirt) and trainers. If the weather is wet, then please also send them with dry socks and their school shoes, as they will still use the pitch and yard for PE where possible. We encourage a positive attitude towards PE as it is so important for physical and mental health and it is wonderful to see them taking part. If you have a child with ear piercings that cannot be removed, please also send tape or plasters so these can be covered.

### **Spellings**

New spellings will be taught on a Friday and tested the following Friday morning. These will include spelling rules and word families, as well as statutory Y5/6 spellings. A paper copy of the half termly list will be sent at the start of each half term and they will also be available on the website.

### **Homework**

Both year groups will have a weekly piece of homework that will be linked to what they are learning in class. Some pieces of homework will be linked to upcoming lessons, so it is important it is completed in time. Tasks will be uploaded to Seesaw on a Thursday and are then due the following Wednesday. If you need the information to log onto Seesaw then please let me know.

### **Reading**

Reading is important throughout the school and we promote a positive reading environment in our classroom. All children will have at least one reading book and they can bring a book between home and school. We always have a class text (usually linked to topic) and time is set aside to read as a class most days. Each child has a reading record where adults can record what has been read and write comments. We would like you to read with your child at least 5 times a week, talk to them about what they have read and make a record of it in their reading record. We also encourage children to read

across a wide variety of genres and texts. Please ensure the reading record comes back to school each day. Children are encouraged to verbally share their book recommendations with their peers, ensuring they can communicate their point clearly and emphasise certain words to draw importance.

I know home life can be very busy, so I appreciate your support in helping children learn their spellings, complete their homework and ensure they read. It helps them extend their knowledge, promote a positive attitude to learning / reading and prepare them for secondary school.

Children can bring one bag to school, if necessary, but nothing too large as there is limited cloakroom space for our class. Please ensure all uniform, bags and water bottles are clearly labelled with your child's name.

If you have any questions or concerns, then please do not hesitate to ring the school office or make an appointment to have a chat.

I am looking forward to seeing you soon and a happy school year.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Barrett