Dear Parents and Carers,

 **Welcome back** for the educational Year 2022-2023! We had a lovely first week settling in and adjusting back to school and the routines! Mrs. Gray, Miss. Hall, Ms. Holian and I are so proud of how well the children have come back and the super attitudes that they have come with too!

 This is just a quick letter to cover a number of things to ensure everyone knows what is going on and anything that may have been missed!

 Firstly, this is just a little reminder that the children all need a **water bottle** in school- this can come in on a Monday and we will ensure they get fresh water daily- *(As we are a healthy School, we only allow water in classroom bottles).* This will then come home on a Friday along with PE kits for washing over the weekend. A **cap** and **sun-cream** would also be greatly appreciated in school for when the sun comes out to play (again, labelled please!) 🌞

 School provides **fresh fruit** for the children daily, ranging from bananas, apples, pears and carrots to mini cucumbers and mangetout peas! Should you however wish for your child to bring in their own snack then please ensure this is a healthy snack. **Milk** is also provided for free to children under age 5, and for any parents who wish for their child to carry on with milk after age 5 is asked to contact Mrs. Stelling.

 **School books** will start and come home on Monday 12th next week once we have complete phonic assessments and listened to readers. I will then aim to change books **every Monday** so you have fresh books for the week. The idea is to read each book three times across three sessions;

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|  | **Focus** | **Explanation** |
| **Read One/ Day 1** | Decoding the book | Pupils use their phonic knowledge to decode the words on the page. Focus is solely on this rather than comprehension and understanding. |
| **Read Two/ Day 2** | Reading for speed/fluency | This is another opportunity for the pupils to apply the phonic knowledge but slightly quicker. You should recognise some of the words the second time round. Adults model prosody (intonation, expression, pausing and freezing) when they read. |
| **Read Three/ Day 3** | Comprehension | This time, the pupils read the book again, by now, they are quite familiar with the words. We asked the pupils what they think about what is happening as they read: Do they understand what they are reading? |

**Reception:** Please see separate letter in your child’s reading record.

**Year One:** Your child will have a Read Write Inc. book, which is phonetically plausible. This book has green words and red words in the front, questions in the back and speed sounds to practise too! Your child will also bring home a ‘book for enjoyment’ which is matched to their reading abilities, but will have trickier words in that cannot be spelt phonetically etc. and may required shared reading or supported reading.

**Year Two:** Your child will have a Read Write Inc. book and a book for enjoyment. Once they have completed the grey book band, children will start to only bring home a book for enjoyment. If their book band is above yellow (books for enjoyment) they are not required to read it three times as they are longer books, but are asked to do some form of questioning after each read. Children are still asked to read each night wherever possible to aid in their reading progression and skills.

**Homework (Yr 1 and 2)** will be due in on a Thursday, **spelling tests** will be completed on a Friday, and new homework and spellings will be sent home on Friday.

 Every three weeks, on a **Wednesday morning**, Class One will be taking part in **Forest Schools** with Mrs. Macarthur! It is so much fun and the children have a great time… this does however mean they may come home a little dirty and muddy- but in Class One we like to wear what we have learnt! Therefore, if possible, we would really appreciate it if your child could have a **pair of wellies at school**- these will also be used if its muddy on the rec at lunch time etc. Also, we strongly recommend leggings/trousers this day rather than shorts or skirts! Mrs. Macarthur will send out further information about all of this.

 On **Wednesday afternoons**, The children will have three different sessions; music with Mrs. Watkinson, Show and Tell with Mrs. Wallen and RE with Mrs. Macarthur.
For **Show and tell**, Receptions are invited to bring something different to share each week. This is encouraged as it aids with communication and presentation skills as well as vocabulary and speech. Year One and Two are asked to bring in something of interest or education to share with the class. They could practise their IT skills looking up key facts and information relating to their objects to make their presenting interesting and informative. Each week will alternate to give everyone a chance to fully present;

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| **Wed 14th Sept** | **Wed 21st Sept** | **Wed 28th Sept** | **Wed 5th Oct** | **Wed 12th Oct** | **Wed 19th Oct** | **Wed 26th Oct** |
| ReceptionYear One | ReceptionYear Two | ReceptionYear One | ReceptionYear Two | ReceptionYear One | ReceptionYear Two | ReceptionYear One |

 **Tapestry**- For those of you with children in Reception, you will now hopefully have had a chance to look on Tapestry and become familiar with it (*should anyone wish for a second relatives account then just pop school an email and we can sort this out*). This is where we will upload images and videos of **WOW moments** that have stood out. Timings may vary as to when we upload; sometimes it might be on the day and other times it may be done in one bulk upload on a weekend. Equally, we may upload the images during the week but attach the assessment statements during the weekend. If you go into your settings on the website, you can alter your notification settings about when you wish to be notified about various things in relation to uploads.
The **Early Years** focuses on the **whole child**, rather than what the child does and achieves at school! So this is where you come in! Please do upload things from home that your child does- this is great to see behaviours and activities that are not presented at school, it is a great discussion point, and ultimately enables an accurate assessment at the end of the year about your whole child and not just your ‘school child’!

 Last but not least… **BOBBY BEAR**! Bobby has a new book for the new school year that needs filling! He will be coming home on Fridays to spend the weekend with one child at a time! If anyone has anything planned for a specific weekend and would prefer to have Bobby then, then please let me know which Friday you would like him and we can make sure he comes home with you/your child for an extra special weekend adventure!

**Weekly Timetable:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| - PE Kits in- Water bottles in- Bobby Bear’s book returned- New reading books home |  | - Show and tell (see rota)- *(Forest Schools every 3rd week)* | - Homework due in | - PE kits home- Water bottles home- New homework/spellings home- Bobby Bear |

 If anyone has any questions at all, please don’t hesitate to catch me at the end of the day or pop admin an email and it will come through to me! I look forward to working with you and your children this year!

**Miss. Gregory ☺**