

## **Discoverers CLASS – Parents information sheet**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you enjoyed the beautiful summer weather and the children are well rested. We are very excited to be teaching in Discoverers this year and have been working hard to ensure that we have lots of exciting learning opportunities ahead of us. Below is some information about the term ahead that you may find useful.

### **Daily routine**

The children should leave their coats and book bags hung on their peg, which is found outside their class. Their reading folder and water bottle will need to be brought into the classroom daily. The water bottle is placed on the tables to enable all children to drink regularly. Please make sure your child has a clearly labelled water bottle in school every day. There will be an activity for the children on the tables to help them settle into class.

### **Topics:**

Our topics run on a two-year rolling programme. This autumn the topic is Ancient Civilisations. In History, the children will be exploring Ancient Egypt; creating timelines, looking at the differences in life at the time, exploring pharaohs, pyramids, investigating the River Nile and using hieroglyphics. Within Geography we will investigate the question: What are rivers and how are they used? Art will aim to turn our classroom into a museum exhibition by Christmas, the children will be recreating Egyptian artefacts and exploring arts styles from the past, including working with clay, papier mache and mixed media drawings. Excitingly in Science, the children will be conducting investigations on electricity and different rock types.

Please be aware that the topic planning can change slightly during the term depending on time limitations and children's interests.

### **Literacy**

We read and work with a book for approx. 3 weeks, during that time we learn important English skills to improve the children's speaking, listening and writing skills. Each unit works towards creating a final piece of work e.g. a story or poem. If possible, please do not share the texts until after they have been read in class. It is nice for the children to experience new texts in school and some of our learning journeys are about making predictions about what will happen in a story. In addition to the English lessons the children will have daily handwriting, spelling and guided reading.

### **Numeracy**

The children will have a daily maths lesson. Please support your child with their number work by practising times tables. All children have been signed up to Times Tables Rock Stars. Children will need guidance and encouragement to access this site initially.

### **Reading**

Please hear your child read every night. Your support makes so much difference to his/her progress. The children will be given a reading book matched to their ability over the first two weeks of school. To encourage responsibility and independence the children are asked to bring their reading folder and any other items that they need to hand in into the classroom. They are given reminders every day but please be aware that we do not check the children's book bags for letters and reading folders. Please access other books for enjoyment and to encourage a love of reading. Reading books are changed once a week, but only upon 3 entries of reading (not the whole book!) with an adult at school/at home are logged in their yellow records.

### **Spellings**

Spelling homework will be given out in October, once the children have settled into their school routines and we have had a chance for assessments to take place. This also allows the children to settle into a routine of reading every evening. Once we start to give out the spelling homework please help your child learn their words.

### **P.E.**

Please make sure ALL kit is named clearly, trainers fit and that **children wear the kit to school on Wednesday and Fridays**. P.E is scheduled for Wednesday and Games is scheduled for Friday. As the weather gets colder please ensure your child wears warm dark coloured joggers/leggings, has a school jumper and a water proof jacket. Earrings are to be removed before each P.E/Games lesson due to health and safety, we cannot take them out for your child and we are not allowed to tape them.

### **School Trips/internal school visits.**

More information will follow regarding the planned trips and internal visits we have planned, but we aim for something to occur at least once a term.

### **Things to remember**

- Water bottle in class, named everyday. Water only please.
- Label all jumpers, coats, hats, bags and anything else that you can put their name on! It is nearly impossible to track down multiple jumpers without names.
- Reading everyday and marked off in the yellow reading records.
- Spelling homework will start in October via the Spelling Shed.
- Children's passwords for Times Tables Rock Stars, Gmail are in the front of their yellow reading books.
- Dojo (our reward point site) will be running and you will be sent a link to log in over the next week.

We are really looking forward to the year ahead and settling into a happy routine quickly. Please do not hesitate to see us if you have any concerns or need any further information. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Rees, Miss Gorman and Mrs. Ferrier

Class teachers and HLTA