

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to welcome everyone back to Hyde School after our lovely sunny summer break. We are looking forward to hopefully another fantastic year with Forest School planned in the autumn term, some visits and visitors, and a new residential trip during the spring term.

Below is some information that you might find useful over the next half term:

- On a Thursday afternoons, Class 2 will be taught by Mr Dalziell for their music and art lessons. The children will need their recorders in school on that day.
- On Friday afternoons, the class will be taught by Mrs Dalziell for French and Mr Wedick for outdoor games on the common.
- PE sessions will be on Wednesdays and Fridays. Please ensure your child has their *PE kit in school at all times*, including a pair of trainers for outdoor games and plimsolls for indoors, as the day may change due to weather conditions. From the beginning of October our Wednesday sessions will be held in the village hall from 10am -11am, Please, see Mrs Baker if you are able to accompany us to the hall either occasionally or regularly.
- Your child should also have a coat, hat and outdoor shoes in school at all times and waterproof trousers must be worn if they want to play football at break and lunchtimes.
- In order to encourage and develop independence in Class 2, we ask that *the children come into school by themselves* using the Class 2 entrance. Parents or carers should not come into school, nor walk through the classroom. If you need to speak to me, please see Mrs Baker in the office and she will pass on any messages promptly or make you an appointment to meet me at the end of the day or at another mutually convenient time.
- Pupils are allowed to bring a *small* pencil case in school. This may include a fountain pen if your child has been asked to use one by Mrs Hooijmeijer. These can be purchased from the office if needed.

Homework

Homework this year will consist of spelling, reading and times tables, a combination of which should be practised every day. Spellings will be set and tested every Friday, along with the times table your child is working on. In addition to this, your child will also be given periodic project based homework, focussing on their topic work.

Spellings

Spellings will be given out every Friday, with a spelling test the following Friday. Your child should be practising their spellings for a few minutes per day, at least three times per week.

This should include; writing the words in sentences and/or writing them down, playing games, using LOOK, COVER, WRITE, CHECK or pyramid writing.

Each week, your child should also write each of their spellings into a sentence. Team points will be awarded for practising words, great sentences and neat presentation of work.

Reading

Your child should be reading at home, whether independently or with adult support, *every day*. This should be for at least five minutes, preferably longer. When hearing your child read, it is important to discuss what it is they are reading to ensure they fully understand the text. I also ask that you fill in your child's reading record on a regular basis **at least 3 times** a week, signing and dating when they have read to you at home. Again, the children will be awarded team points for this.

Multiplication Facts

It is extremely important that children have a secure knowledge of multiplication facts and their inverse (opposite) operation; $3 \times 4 = 12$, $12 \div 3 = 4$ etc, in order to support their learning in other areas of maths. Therefore, your child should be practising their Times Tables at home, with your support and encouragement. This could be a few minutes when they get home from school, after dinner, even around the breakfast table or on a long journey in the car! Even if your child has learned all of their Times Tables, it is still useful to play games or ask them quick fire questions from time to time, so that they stay fresh in their mind. We will test their Times Tables every week after the spelling test.

'Topic Task'

This will be a more research based project for your child to work on over two or three weeks. The date the work is due to be handed in will accompany the set task. You should support your child with the task, but do not carry out the task for them, as it is not a competition, rather a shared learning opportunity. Encourage them to be as creative as possible with the way they present their work e.g. posters, leaflets, PowerPoint presentations, reports on visits to museums, models built, art work, project books, etc. Your child will then present their work to the rest of the class, explaining their methods and what they have found out.

Repeated failure to hand in homework on time or a lack of signatures in the reading diary will result in the loss of playtime.

If you ever have any questions about homework, or anything else during the course of the year, then please don't hesitate to make an appointment with Mrs Baker to see me or we can have a quick chat after school.

Mrs Hooijmeijer