

Autumn 2 Newsletter

Welcome back to another term in Year 2! We hope that you have had a wonderful half term break and enjoyed spending time with your family. Our topic this term will continue to be Forest Rangers and the children will be looking closely at the Amazon Rainforest, discussing the impact of deforestation and comparing the forest to Sherwood Forest in Nottingham

PE Kits and Uniform

PE lessons will take place every Friday afternoon. Please ensure your child's indoor and outdoor PE kit is in school every day and that it is clearly named in a PE bag. Children should not wear earrings for PE and long hair needs to be tied up. Please ensure earrings are removed on the morning of PE or your child can remove them themselves. PE will be outside where possible this term, so please ensure appropriate kit is in school. If it is raining or too cold, the children will be in the hall.

Please ensure your child comes in the correct school uniform and that it is all clearly named! A polite reminder that nail varnish needs to be removed for school and earrings must be plain studs.

Water bottles

Please could you ensure that your child brings a named water bottle into school each day that contains plain water only. It is the children's responsibility to remember to take it home every day. The children will have access to their water bottles at specific times throughout the day, to allow them to rehydrate.

Homework and Spelling Journals

Homework will continue to be sent as a 'pic n mix' style with red boxes completed weekly, amber boxes completed at specific times and green boxes provided extra learning opportunities. Your child's homework book must be returned each Wednesday ready to be marked and handed out again on the Friday.

We will continue to send out weekly spellings on a Monday and they will continue to be sent out on weduc for the time being, to limit the amount of books being sent home at this current time. Spelling journals will be used in school only until further notice. This year the children will have a weekly 'quiz' before recording their new spellings. We have been incredibly impressed with the improvement in spellings shown during the weekly spelling quizzes. It is essential that children are supported with their homework this year and that they practise their spelling words as many times as possible throughout the week. The first list of spellings this term, will be sent out on **Monday 16th November**. **The first week of term will be spent recapping over the spelling rules learnt last term.**

Attendance

As you are aware, a good level of attendance is essential for good progress in learning. It is very important that you contact the school office if your child is off school due to illness. Every school day counts!

Reading

Reading books will be changed regularly at school and the class teacher/TA will record this in the reading records. Please continue to support your child's reading at home and record any comments in your child's reading record. We ask that you support your child with reading at least 3 times per week and that the children begin to read independently for 10 minutes per night. The children can record in their own journals the pages that they have read independently but we ask that parents still continue to record their own comments when listening to children read.

Phonics Screening Check

As you will be aware, the children were unable to take the Year 1 Phonics Screening check this year due to Covid-19 restrictions. We have been instructed to carry out the check this term. This is a statutory requirement for all pupils and will assess each child's phonic decoding ability. This is nothing to worry about and the children are used to practising their phonics during every day lessons so this will not be out of the ordinary for them. They will be asked to read 40 real and alien words, one to one with their class teacher which get progressively trickier. Any children who do not pass this term, will be given the opportunity to retake in June. We aim to carry out the screening check at some point towards the middle of this term. Any queries or worries, please come and speak to your class teacher.

We would like to thank you for your continued support. Please speak to Miss Smith or Mr Leggett if you have any worries, queries or concerns!