

*Aim High …. Fly High*

 7th January 2019

Dear parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of a new year! I hope that your family have enjoyed a relaxing break and I wish you all a happy new year. I look forward to getting to know you and your families over the coming weeks.

If you would like the opportunity to meet me in person as your child’s new teacher, I will be available for an informal discussion in Owl class on the afternoon of Wednesday 16th January between 3:30pm and 4:30pm. I look forward to meeting those of you who would like/are able to attend at this time.

Attached is the topic web for this term which includes the learning we hope to cover within key subject areas. Often the children’s interests lead us to include different activities, so it may be changed or adapted where appropriate. A Home Learning grid is also attached.

In the mornings, please remember to help your child develop their independence by coming into the school building by themselves. Also please make sure that your child knows if they are having a packed lunch or a school dinner. Menus are available so that you can help your child to decide what they would like to eat before the school day.

Every Wednesday afternoon, Doves and Owls will take part in a carousel of 2 different activities. During these sessions, Mrs Ranasinghe will teach Computing and a coach from Cambridge United will teach the children P.E. Times tables and spellings may also be practised during the afternoon.

Children are welcome to bring in a piece of fruit or vegetable for a snack during morning playtime. We encourage children to bring a named bottle of water to drink during the day.

We politely ask that children do not bring toys or swapping cards from home. We have found in the past that many special things have been lost or broken and we would like to avoid this where possible. Only items related to the topic will be shown in a ‘show and tell’ fashion as and when time allows.

This term our PE days are Mondays and Wednesdays. The children will require their PE kit; a plain T-shirt, shorts for inside and jogging trousers, sweatshirt and suitable footwear for outside activities. We aim to get outside for PE once a week so appropriate cold weather kit is vital. All items should be named. Although our set days for P.E/Games are Mondays and Wednesdays, it is a good idea to keep their PE kit in school all week in case of timetable alterations. In accordance with the regulations stated in Cambridge County Council’s Health and Safety Guidelines for Physical Education, all children with long hair must have it tied back, and all jewellery must be removed. In the event of children having new ear piercings they should have tape with them to cover the studs. The children must be able to do this for themselves.

For home learning in Lower Key Stage Two, the children are expected to study for around 1½ hours per week at home. The breakdown of home study will be as follows:

\* Spellings will be given on a Tuesday for a test on the following Monday.

\* Times tables will be given on a Monday ready for a test on the following Friday.

\* One piece of home learning from the grid should be completed fortnightly and returned on every other Wednesday – dates are shown on the accompanying grid.

\*A weekly reading home learning task will be given depending on the day your child’s reading takes place in class. It is very important that children complete the task as it will be discussed and marked during their guided reading session. The reading tasks can be found in the front of your child’s reading home learning book, along with details on how much they should be reading as a minimum per week.

We do appreciate that some children find it hard to complete tasks at home, so there will be the opportunity for children to complete tasks at homework club. This is held on Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes. Library club will also be held on these days.

Children in both Year 3 and Year 4 will now be coming out of school more independently. They will be reminded that if they don’t see their parent/guardian, they must come back into school and tell an adult. If the after school arrangements for your child change, please let the office know in the morning. A brief phone call, handwritten note or email is fine. It can delay the school bus if we have to contact parents to check whether a child should be on the bus or not.

As always, parent helpers are very welcome in class and if you are able to come in and help, either occasionally or on a regular basis, please do let me know.

If you have any questions or concerns about anything then please do come and speak to me; I will be very happy to answer all your questions.

I look forward to an exciting and action packed term!

Best wishes,

Mr Walker

Owl class teacher