



Windrush Class Autumn Term Letter 2017

Dear Parents

Welcome to the Autumn term!

Mrs. Godfrey, Mrs. Docherty and I are looking forward to the coming weeks where we help the children to get settled into their new routines. We feel encouraged that their transition sessions went well which bodes well for a smooth start. Our focus will be on the children settling in happily; we will give them a really gentle start, which will build up gradually to form their full schedule of daily activities.

In Windrush we have high expectations for behaviour and strive for a mutually respectful community. We have always managed to build and maintain this ethos through our excellent relationships with parents and carers. Please feel free to approach us if you have any questions or concerns. We will create our class agreement together, which will follow our school values of *Aspire, Respect, Achieve*.

Windrush Handbook

I enclose a new handbook which outlines class procedures and expectations. This handbook will also be on the school website for your information.

Food, Glorious Food

Our topic for the Autumn term is *Food, Glorious Food*. As always I will be asking the children for their input to ensure work can be child led wherever possible. I attach a curriculum overview to give you a brief taste of our learning across the curriculum.

50p Weekly Donation

If you are able, we would be very grateful for a 50p per weekly donation. This money helps us to fund cooking, and craft activities as well as fun science experiments, Forest School treats and interesting equipment for one off projects. This money is always spent on something that will directly enhance your child's provision. It's great to have the little extras sometimes! - Please ask your child to pop your donation into the tin in the classroom (I will point it out!).

Year One Parents

The transition from foundation stage can seem rather large! As a team we are very aware of this and mindful of making everything as smooth as possible for your children. As I have said, I will be easing everyone in for the first few weeks; we will spend lots of time getting to know how everything works in Windrush Class. I am keen for all to feel confident so please ask Mrs. Godfrey, Mrs. Docherty or myself if you have any questions.

Homework

- Please continue supporting your child with spellings and homework tasks, the children do benefit from taking responsibility for their learning when they are away from school but it is important to strike a good balance between work, rest and fun!
- Year 2 children will be given homework tasks which will be handed out on Friday. All homework must be handed in on the following **Wednesday**.
- Spellings are set out in their mission folders and each child will be tested on Fridays. Both year groups are expected to read and practise their mission words and spellings every day. Please practise these at home.
- Please ensure you are reading daily with your child. Children are expected to change their own books and aim to write their own comments in their yellow journals. For younger children the adult reading with them should write in the journal.

Swimming - Detailed letter from Mrs. Hunt to follow

We will be continuing our weekly swimming sessions on a Tuesday Morning. These sessions are not only brilliant fun and a vital skill for life, they are a great way to boost confidence and independence in our young children. KS1 is a perfect time to start swimming as children are open to new challenges and learn new physical skills quickly. The children are carefully assessed by our swimming instructors and put into structured ability groups.

Timetable

A copy of our timetable can be found on the school website. The children will have swimming every Tuesday and PE every Friday. Please make sure PE kits are on pegs at all times. We will not have Forest School sessions this term but will be doing lots of outdoor learning so wellies are a must!

I am very excited to be teaching Windrush class and look forward to getting to know new parents and children. I have an excellent team working with me who already know your children so I am sure the transition to the new class will be smooth for all. I'm sure we will have a super term full of fun and adventure. Thank you so much for the support you give the staff and children it is greatly appreciated and vital to the smooth running of our class.

Best wishes,

Nikki Latton, (Class Teacher), Tracey Godfrey (Teaching Assistant) and Holly Docherty (Teaching Assistant)