

AUTUMN TERM IN PINE CLASS



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you all had an enjoyable Summer break and the children are ready and raring to go. The Autumn Term is one where learning really does take off so we look forward to being with your children and encouraging their skills and interests.

- **Topic** - Our topics for the Autumn Term is 'What is your treasure?' We will be looking at 'Paston's Treasure' as a starting point with a visit to the Castle Museum on Friday 21st September for all the Year 1's, to look at this piece of art and become inspired. Do take a look on-line, it is a fascinating piece with much to talk about and of great historical significance.
- **Reading** – It is expected that children are heard read at home each day please, if they have a reading book. Huge thanks to those parents who do this already as reading opens up every other area of the curriculum and children that read every day are the ones that achieve well. This is the term in which a real difference can be made at home. We find that it helps to get into a routine with reading by doing it at the same time each day. Children like a routine, and it will become part of a regular pattern after a while. We will continue to hear the children at every available opportunity in school, but this should not be their only source of reading.

For Reception children (acorns) the priority for the first half term is for them to listen to stories, learn their initial sounds and enjoy playing with rhyme. We will let you know when we feel that your child is ready to begin their journey in reading.

Colder weather - As the weather gets colder please do provide your child with suitable NAMED clothing. It can be very cold at playtimes and lunchtimes and the expectation is for them to be outside as part of their provision. We would suggest a hat and gloves as they do feel the cold.

- **Book bags** – All that your child needs to bring to school is a Morley Primary bookbag with nothing more in it than their reading book and home link book. Please, don't put water bottles into book bags, in our experience they leak and can ruin expensive books. We have a tray in school which the children just put the bottle into as they get to school
- **Red Books** – Your child will have a new red home link book for you to let us know of anything you feel would be useful to us. For example if your child is going home with someone else. Mornings are very busy in an early years' classroom, so sadly we don't always get to speak to all the parents every day. But, rest assured that these books are checked first thing in the morning should you need to let us know of something.
- **PE** – All children need to have their PE kits with them every day please. Reception children have Learn, Play, Grow sessions on a Thursday afternoon with Sheila and Year 1's (conkers) have a session with Coach Ian on a Tuesday afternoon. In addition to this we have a session of 'Outdoor learning' every Wednesday afternoon across the Key Stage. So, your child will need to have a pair of wellies and a waterproof all in one/trousers/jacket that we can keep in school as we do go out in all weathers. Please name them too.
- **VALUE FOR LIFE** – As a Church of England school we follow the values for life, and this term it is THANKFULNESS. So please do take every opportunity to chat to your child about being thankful as we will be reflecting on this as part of Collective Worship and as part of daily school life.

'LEARN TOGETHER, WORK TOGETHER, GROW TOGETHER'

Our priority is your child. We find that those parents who become partners in learning truly improve the outcomes for their children. When parents are involved children achieve more, they are happier, they develop greater self esteem and demonstrate good behaviour so please do get involved as it is the most wonderful time in their lives and it whizzes by in a flash!

As always, if you have any questions or queries then please do come and see us.

(After school is always preferable please)

Many thanks,

Kate Easter and Elizabeth Cooper