



Aim High Fly High

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and to the start of the summer term! This is always a busy term, but a fun and rewarding one where the children are able to use and build upon the hard work and learning they have done so far this academic year.

Most of our routines will remain the same this term. Children will continue to have phonics lessons within their differentiated groups four times a week and in class during English and Reading sessions. The children are grouped from across Year 1 and Year 2 to allow children to practise the skills and words appropriate for their learning stage. Common Exception Word spellings will continue to be sent home and checked every Friday. Please ensure your child brings their spelling sheets in on this day each week. Phonics sounds and spelling rules will still be sent home on a Friday. The children are not tested on these but they will be required to read and write these words during the following week within their phonics session. The tricky words within the list are used throughout the week and are useful words for the children to learn by heart.

PE times are as last term – PE with our coach from Cambridge United is on Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons the children are taught PE by their teacher. We will endeavour to go outside each week for PE unless it is pouring with rain; please check your child's P.E. kit includes a plain white/blue t-shirt, black shorts, jogging bottoms, warm sweatshirt/sports jacket, spare socks and trainers/pumps. Please make sure **all** P.E. kit is clearly named so we can return them quickly if lost.

This term's Home Learning grid will be handed out to every child and will be available to access on the school website. As always, please let us know if you have questions about any of the activities or require print-outs of the resources. As this topic will be running for the whole of the Summer term, we would like your child to please choose **two** projects to be completed throughout the whole term. Please hand them in as they are completed and they will be displayed at the end of term. We will continue to use your child's reading diary as a means of communication so please encourage them to bring these in each day and place them in the reading book box to be checked by an adult. We will help the children daily to change their reading books and will also continue to choose books from the library each week. We also like to hear about books that the children are enjoying to read and share at home so please do let us know about these also.



Guided Reading and Writing - Each child has at least one Guided Reading session led by a teacher each week. These sessions involve a small group of children who are working at a similar level of ability. Activities include discussing and interpreting texts as well as exploring ways to improve sentence writing. They will also be carrying out independent follow-up and spelling and grammar activities. We also aim to read with the pupils 1:1 when possible.

During the school day the children are also given opportunities for quiet reading time, as well as book sharing with a friend. Children are very welcome to bring in books from home for this and can keep them in their trays. We would also be very grateful for any parent helpers who would be willing to hear children read in the afternoon. If you would like to come in and help in class, either on a regular basis or as and when you can, please let us know as we would love to see you!

We also have the class reading sack which includes a variety of books for the children to enjoy at home. These will be given out on a Friday and need to be returned by the following Friday for the next pupil to take it home.

At home, please continue to listen to your child read as often as possible and encourage them to change their reading book as often as they need to. Daily reading is recommended but is not always possible due to after school commitments, tiredness etc. However, if you could aim for at least three times a week and record this in the reading diary that would be most beneficial. Your child will continue to earn stickers on their bookmarks every time their reading is recorded in their reading diary.

In English, the children will have plenty of opportunities this term to improve their writing skills. Our topic for the whole of the Summer term is 'Our Place in Space - Africa' and we will be looking at a range of texts involving poetry, stories with from other cultures and information texts to explore the features of non-fiction books.

Our Maths learning this term will include consolidating our knowledge of place value and securing our understanding of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division methods through problem solving and reasoning activities, involving word problems and money. We will also be securing our knowledge of simple fractions, relating to shapes and numbers, and solving a range of calculations using practical, pictorial and written methods.

Statutory Assessments

For all classes, the summer term is always an important time for end of year assessment. All Year 2 children will take part in some additional statutory tests. Throughout May, the Year 2 children will take part in their end of Key Stage 1 tests (known as SATs). A meeting for parents explaining this in more detail will take place on Thursday 30th April at 2:45pm (letters to follow). In June, Year 1 children will participate in the 'phonics screening check', which is a standardised way to assess reading skills. A letter will be sent home about this nearer the time.

Although these are important assessments they are only part of the picture as we have built up a clear picture of the children over the year through a range of observations and assessment methods. The most important thing is that the children remain stress free and that they do not feel that they are vastly out of the norm from general classroom activities. A good night's sleep and hearty breakfast are essential! We do not refer to the assessments as SATs or tests and simply say it is special work. We would appreciate parents support in keeping these assessments low key for the pupils.

Preparing for Key Stage 2

For children in Year 2, this will be their last term in Key Stage 1. Towards the end of the school year there will be a meeting for parents to discuss the transition into Year 3. In the meantime, we will be subtly introducing changes during this term to help prepare the children. For example, there will be times given to them to have their afternoon play on the Key Stage 2 playground to get used to the space.

Finally, if you have any queries about your child's learning, or just want a chat about how they are doing, please come and see us or email Mrs Rigby in the office to make an appointment.

Yours sincerely,
Miss Paul and Miss Nicholson