

Thomas Eaton Primary Academy

Part of The Diamond Learning Partnership Trust

Established in the Queen's Jubilee Year 2012

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Acting Head of school: Mrs Nicola Jones BEd NPQH

Gupta Class: Autumn 2020

21st September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Now that the new school year has started, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome both you and your child/ren to Gupta class. Whilst we appreciate that things currently look and feel a little different to usual, the safety of our pupils, school staff and yourselves is, and always will be, our number one priority. Rest assured, we are adhering to government guidelines and we are continuing to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum for all our children.

The children have begun the term looking incredibly smart and have made a great start adapting to the new routines, teachers and the increased responsibility of moving further into KS2 brings. This will be an important year where the children develop their independence further and start to take more responsibility for their own learning as they move up in the school.

During the first few weeks of term, we will be establishing good routines with the children and setting our expectations for the year ahead but there are many ways in which you can be involved with encouraging and supporting the children at this stage in their education. Included in this newsletter is some important information to ensure that you are aware of the way things will work in Gupta class.

Reading

We continue to aspire for our children to be able to read for pleasure, with fluency and understanding. Daily reading practice at home remains one of the most vital homework tasks for all pupils, accounting to a minimum of 20 minutes every weekday. We will be monitoring how often children are reading at home by the frequency that they are taking Accelerated Reader quizzes. It is extremely important for children to read to an adult at home and be asked questions about what they have read.

Please remember that any books the children read from outside of school may be on the Accelerated Reader system. You can check online by using the following link <http://www.arbookfind.co.uk/UserType.aspx>



In conjunction with Accelerated Reader, this term we will be motivating the children with the 100% club in class. Each time the a child scores 100% in their Accelerated Reading Quizzes, they will be entered into the class draw at the end of each half term for the chance to win a book token. We will also be setting individual word count targets and a whole class word count challenge. This term we are challenging the children to read **400,000** words. Will they succeed? Watch this space.

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Non negotiables

A polite reminder of our expectations of children at Thomas Eaton Primary Academy.

Key Stage 2
<i>In our writing we must:</i>
Use capital letters , ? ! .
Use a variety of conjunctions: when, if, because, although
Use prepositions, adverbs and exciting verbs
Use joined handwriting
Make sure lines of writing are spaced sufficiently
<i>In our Maths books we must:</i>
Write 1 digit per square
Use a ruler to draw all lines
Form all digits correctly
Write the question number then leave a square before the answer
Miss a line between each question
Show our working out

Handwriting and presentation

All children are expected to use neat, clear, handwriting in all books at all times and we will encourage every child to take pride in their presentation. We will consistently be modelling joined handwriting and will therefore expect writing to be joined for those children who have shown they are ready to do so.

PE / Games



There are two timetabled sessions a week; on a **Monday** afternoon and **Friday** afternoon. Children will also partake in physical activity throughout the school day. Your child does not require a PE kit at present as they will already be in suitable clothing. However, your child will need a change of named suitable footwear (not wellies) to change in to during these outdoor sessions.

All long hair needs to be securely tied back and jewellery, including earrings removed. PE is an important part of our curriculum and all children will be expected to take part in all sessions. If your child cannot take part for medical reasons, please speak to the class teacher to make them aware.



Home Learning: Our expectations are that, all children should:

Read every day at home for a sustained period of time (a minimum of 20 minutes).

Complete a minimum of 45 minutes of Maths Whizz per week.



Please note that children who do not complete this learning will complete it in their break times at school unless other arrangements are in place after consultation with ourselves or the Head-teacher.

From time to time, we may also ask children to:

Practise any spellings that are sent home.

Practise specific times tables that are sent home.

Equipment for school

Our policy is that we do not allow children to wear jewellery to school. However, we will allow them to wear watches and encourage the wearing of analogue watches (with hands, not digital numbers) to help them learn how to tell the time. **Please remember to send your child to school with a named water bottle every day** which they can keep near their table for easy access. Please ensure that the bottle **only** contains water and is clearly labelled. Key Stage 2 children should bring in a healthy snack – fruit is ideal. Sweets and crisps are not allowed. As we are having a slightly later lunchtime this year (12:20pm), if you know that your child will get hungry, it would be a good idea to send them with a more substantial (but still healthy) snack such as a sandwich. Can we please remind you that nuts are not allowed for allergy reasons.



Please label all your child's clothes/shoes, lunchboxes and water bottles. With the Autumnal weather on the horizon, please ensure that your child has a named coat in school to wear at break and lunchtimes.

We are sure that you will agree it is important that we encourage the children to be both independent and responsible for themselves, their belongings and their actions. We are sure that we can rely on your help and support in this matter. Your continued support in the education of your child is both valued and much appreciated.

If you wish to discuss anything or have any concerns regarding your child please do not hesitate to contact us through the school office. We will be more than happy to talk to you at a mutually convenient time.

Finally, we would like to wish you a strong, safe and happy start to the term ahead. We look forward to getting to know you over the coming weeks and fostering a good home / school relationship.

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Nuccoll, Mrs D Sycamore and the Gupta Team.