

# Welcome to Hedgehogs Class



We hope you had a lovely first day being a Hedgehog. Myself and Mrs Murtagh are very excited to have you!

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you to everyone who has emailed in a photo of your child outside their house. We will be looking at these next week so if you haven't already done so, please could you e-mail me a photo as soon as possible.

## **Hedgehogs Class Team**

As well as myself, we are joined in Hedgehogs this year by Mrs Murtagh, our class Teaching Assistant. On Wednesday afternoons during my planning allowance, the class will be taught by our specialist music teacher and will have a PE lesson taught by Mrs Sinclair.

## **Houses and Homes**

We begin the year with a special delivery from The Jolly Postman and The Three Little Pigs. In English, our focus is letter writing and we will learn about what we need to include when writing a letter. We will then look at comparing the Three Little Pigs to The Three Little Pugs and The Big Bad Cat by Becky Davies and write our very own version of the story.

For our Geography learning we will be going on a village walk and will be mapping out the route we take. We will also be learning about all of the different types of houses. This topic is heavily Science based and we begin our learning about materials. We will look at the properties of different materials and investigate which material will be strong enough to stop the Wolf blowing our house down.

## **Reading**

We have given your child a home reading pack which contains their reading record and three books to read at home. They will need to bring this to school with them each day. Please encourage your child to read at home every day and make a note of the book they have read and any comments in their reading diary. We encourage you to read and re-read the books that children take home so that they begin to pick up any tricky words they found the first time reading.

We are not able to look at your child's reading record every day so please be aware that if you write a note to one of us in the diary we may not see this until we read with your child that week. If you have any urgent messages then please let an adult know at drop off or contact the office by telephone or e-mail.

## **Key Words**

Your child will be continuing their Key Word bookmarks from Early Years. These will be pinned to the back of your child's reading record. Your child will learn and practice their Key Words throughout our weekly teaching. Once your child is able to confidently read the Key Words, we will then move them on to the next bookmark. It would be great if you could practice these with your child when reading with them.

### **Homework**

Homework will be sent out via Google Classroom and will begin on 24<sup>th</sup> September. The homework will include a summary of our maths learning that week and also a list of words related to our phonics learning. This homework is optional but if there is any work your child has completed at home and is particularly proud of, then it would be great to showcase it on Google Classroom or bring it in to school.

Each week, there will also be 5 spelling words to learn. We will have a spelling quiz/activities on a Friday morning so it would be great if you can practice these with your child at home.

### **PE**

Your child will need to come dressed in their PE kit on a **Wednesday** and **Thursday**. Mrs Sinclair will teach PE on a Wednesday afternoon during PPA time. Please ensure that your child has tracksuit bottoms and a jumper for colder weather.

### **Forest School**

Forest school will take place every other Tuesday afternoon with the first session for half of the class on 13<sup>th</sup> September. You will receive an e-mail this week which will let you know which group your child is in and which dates they will be attending Forest School. Your child will need to bring wellies and come dressed in clothes that will be getting very muddy!

### **Snacks**

Fruit will be provided every day for each child in Year 1. If your child would like to bring in an alternative/additional snack then this **must** be a healthy snack. For example, a piece of fruit, vegetables or crackers. If your child is bringing in a snack, please ensure this is in a named container.

### **Water bottles**

Please could all children bring into school a labelled water bottle as it is important that they can access water throughout the school day. If children have a packed lunch please could they bring a separate water bottle to be kept in the classroom during the day. Please remember water bottles should only contain **water**.

### **Help and Support**

If you would like to come in and help and support us it would be greatly appreciated! Reading with everyone each week is very difficult. If you are able to give an hour or two of your time, it really takes the pressure off and helps us to hear every child read each week. If anyone likes cutting and sticking, I'm sure we can find lots for you to do too! If you are interested please contact the school office.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us or the school office.

Many thanks,

Miss Griffith and Mrs Murtagh.