

Poppy Class Newsletter

Autumn 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Hello and welcome to Poppy Class! We have had a busy first week, settling into our new routines and getting to know everyone. I think I have learned everyone's name! The children have settled very well and it is lovely to see their smiling faces each morning.

Mornings

From Monday, please can you bring your child to our cloakroom door in the morning. This door is in the main playground near the main gate. Either myself, or Mrs Gleeson, will be at the door to greet you from 8.45am. We are hoping this will help with handwashing. After school, please continue to collect your child from our small yard at the bottom of the playground.

Snack

All children in Poppy Class are provided with a piece of fruit each morning playtime. This fruit is provided free of charge. The children are not required to bring additional snack to school. If you would like your child to have milk daily, please contact the school office.

PE

Our PE lessons will be on Mondays and Wednesdays. These lessons will be outside, weather permitting. Please can your children come to school on PE days wearing appropriate clothing for this lesson, such as leggings, jogging bottoms, t-shirts, jumpers, trainers or pumps. The children do not need to bring their school uniform on PE days. As children will not be getting the experience at school of changing clothes and neatly folding them, please can you practice this important skill at home.

Water bottles

Please can your children bring a water bottle to school each day. They will keep their bottle under their table and have access to it throughout the day. Lots of children have started with the 'back to school' sniffles and runny nose. Please can you provide them with a packet or box of tissues that they can keep on their

table. We are trying to encourage the children to 'catch it, bin it, kill it'. Please closely monitor your child's symptoms and contact your GP if your child develops a high temperature, a cough or change in taste / smell.

Reading

All children should now have a school reading book. We have initially placed them on the colour band they were last recorded on. We are reading regularly with the children and will assess the children's reading bands. Please continue to read as regularly as you can and record your reading in the reading log. Once your child has read their book at home, they are able to choose a new book. The books returned to school are quarantined for a minimum of 72 hours before being returned to the shelf. We are recording reading with your children in school, to prevent cross-contamination with materials that are going home and coming to school.

Assessments

Over the next two weeks, the year 2 children will be completing assessments in class. These assessments will be conducted in an informal way and in small groups. They are being used to assess where the children's learning needs are and how best to help them make progress. The year 1 children will be completing phonics assessments, 1:1 with me and Mrs Gleeson. This will inform our teaching of phonics.

Topic

Our topic this term is called School Days. This topic teaches children about their own school and locality, both today and in the past. They compare schooling in the Victorian era to their experiences today. It is a good history topic, that the children can relate to. Each topic will begin with a 'Wow Day', as a stimulus for the children. On Monday, we will be having our wow day! We will be finding out about the history of our school, going on a tour around our school and experiencing what school would have been like in Victorian times. The children will come home with some questions about school life, to ask their parents or grandparents.

It has been lovely getting to know you all and welcoming the children back to school. If you have any questions or concerns, please see me before or after school. If you need a lengthy or private meeting, please make an appointment at the office.

Thank you for your support, Mrs Fletcher.