

September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school! We have been looking forward to getting the children back into class and learning together. In these peculiar times, we are asking a lot of our children but we are certain that they can rise to the challenges they will be faced with.

The Team

The Upper Key Stage 2 team comprises of Mr McPherson (phase leader), Miss Gardner and Miss Heslop as class teachers and Mrs Norridge, Mrs Lewis and Mrs Edwards as teaching assistants. Mrs Bishop will be covering PPA and Mr McPherson's leadership time out of class.

Entry and exit times

Classes have a specific time to enter and exit each day. Please be prompt with your child's arrival and collection. They are as follows:

- Pine – enter 8.25am; exit 2.55pm
- Lime – enter 8.40am; exit 3.10pm
- Elm – enter 8.50am; exit 3.25pm

If you child misses their entry time, please take them to the school office.

The curriculum

Our topic up until Christmas will be 'Extreme Explorers and Climates.' We will be studying Ernest Shackleton's amazing expedition. We will investigate different climates and, after half-term, focus on mountains.

In Science, we will be exploring Earth and Space as our first topic, followed by Forces.

In guided reading we will begin by exploring Katherine Johnson, Margaret Hamilton and Dorothy Vaughan as part of our Space topic. Following this, we will look at classic poetry by Walter De La Mare.

PPA Cover

Mrs Bishop, Mrs Norridge and Mrs Lewis will be teaching the 3 classes on a Thursday afternoon to cover teachers' PPA time. Mrs Norridge will cover Miss Heslop's Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT) time on a Friday afternoon.

PE

In accordance with government recommendations, we are asking that children come to school in their PE kits on the days that they have that lesson. They are not required to bring their school uniform in on those days other than a school jumper if this is possible. PE lessons are as follows:

- Lime class will be doing PE on Tuesday and Friday.
- Pine class will be doing PE on Monday and Friday
- Elm class will be doing PE on Tuesday and Wednesday.

PE kit consists of: a white t-shirt, shorts/skort, joggers, athletic/sports trainers and a separate jumper / sweatshirt.

We will do PE outside, so please ensure your child brings in sufficient warm clothing. Coats are not permitted for PE. Extra layers when it is cold would be advisable.

Home Learning

Home Learning is given out on Fridays and collected on Wednesdays.

The aim of this is to instil responsibility and independence by children for their own learning. Home Learning includes: weekly spelling pattern, Times Tables Rockstars and Reading. We are beginning to work with Google Classroom and once children are familiar with its set up home learning will be posted on here.

Class Dojo

You will be able to communicate with your child's class teacher over the Class Dojo platform. Teachers will post messages and reminders on here too. If your child is going to be absent from school, please inform the school office by phone rather than over this platform.

Reading Diaries

Reading diaries will be monitored daily by your child's teacher. Children should write the name of the book they are reading, page numbers read and a comment about what has happened/what they have learnt. We hope children have a broad diet of reading, not solely focusing on one author or genre.

We will be launching an Upper Key Stage 2 Reading Challenge this term; information will be sent out closer to the time about this.

Reading diaries will not be collected in for the time being.

Safeguarding

If there are any changes to your child's arrangements for coming to and from school, please see your child's teacher or contact the school office.

We run an open-door policy, so please feel free to pop in and see us if you have an issue.

Yours sincerely,

Mr McPherson, Miss Gardner, Miss Heslop, Mrs Bishop, Mrs Norridge, Mrs Lewis and Mrs Edwards.

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BUT TO DISCOVER OUR
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