



September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to see all the children today and I hope you enjoyed a restful summer holiday. The children have all had a fantastic first day in Mercury Class as Year Two's and they are settling in well to their new surroundings!

As a federation we follow the Learning Challenge Curriculum (LCC) for all of our topic work, and the first 'Big Question' for Mercury Class will be – **'Why would a dinosaur not make a good pet?'**
I have included an overview of our first 'Big Question' for your information – please find attached.

In English this term we shall be looking at:

- Instructions
- Letter Writing
- Story Writing
- Recounts

In Maths this term we shall be looking at:

- Number – Place Value
- Number – Addition and Subtraction
- Measurement – Money
- Number -Multiplication

Our PE sessions this term are on a Monday and Friday. Please ensure that children come to school in full PE kit on these days.

Show and Tell will be on a Friday and a different house will be chosen each week. The rota is as follows;

Friday 18th September: Rose

Friday 25th September: Daffodil

Friday 2nd October: Shamrock

Friday 9th October: Thistle

This will then continue on a rota basis. Due to current restrictions please ensure that Show and Tell items fit into your child's bag – only your child will be handling the item; once they have spoken about it their Show and Tell will go straight back in their bag. I do ask that children do not bring in any other things from home

During school hours I will remind children to drink plenty of water. If your child would like to bring their own drink, please send water, in a named drinks bottle.

This year there will be no toast available at break time; however Key Stage One should still be having free fruit. You are more than welcome to provide your child with their own piece of fruit. Can I take this opportunity to remind you that we should have no nuts or strawberries in school.

Every Friday one child will be selected to take home the class 'Special Box'. They will have the opportunity to choose something that is special to them and share it with the class. This is to be brought

back on a Monday. By doing this I hope to encourage your child to enjoy writing so please support them but allow them to do this independently where possible.

I thank you for your support with listening to your child read daily at home. In order to enable your child to develop their comprehension skills, please talk about the book, the characters and their favourite part to see how well they have understood the story. (I will send home a comprehension bookmark to give you some guidance in this area; some of the children already had this bookmark in Year One). Please record this in their reading diaries so I can see their progress. This year the children will have two reading diaries – one which will go home and one which will stay in school. Due to current restrictions we as staff aren't allowed to handle the reading diary that goes home – we will ask your child to open their reading diary so that we can see their progress. We will use the school reading diary when we hear your child read at school. **In the past reading diaries have been used to communicate between school and parents; therefore, if you have a message to pass onto us please telephone, email or send a note in with your child.**

In Reception and Key Stage One we will be changing reading books on a Monday and Thursday – this is so we can quarantine the books in between. We thank you in advance for your co-operation with this.

This year we as a school will be setting homework online. I will be using Google Classroom, Education City, Bug Club and Spelling Frame – there will be more details about homework to follow.

I have included in the children's reading diaries their individual passwords for Education City and Bug Club. These are both valuable learning tools to access at home and over the course of the year. We will access Bug Club at school and will occasionally share a 'Bug Club' book together on the carpet.

This year we will be having a specific 'spelling' session on a Monday. In this session a particular spelling pattern will be introduced and practised altogether as a class. The children will then take home 5 spellings to learn (3 spellings linked to the spelling pattern and 2 common exception words). The following Monday we will then have a spelling test.

As you can appreciate with free school dinners being available to all children in Key Stage One, it can take a long time to decide what the children are having for their lunch option. Please read through the menu at home so the children have an idea of what they want and so you can check that they will like that option.

I am looking forward to getting to know you and your children over the course of the year; although school maybe a bit different, I and the adults in the class will be working hard to make sure that your children are relaxed and happy at school.

Kind regards

Miss Hayman