



Ferring Church of England Primary School

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John10:10

Monday 13th January 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome back after what I hope was a lovely Christmas holiday and half term break! We have a busy term ahead! You can find out about what we will be doing this half term by reading the curriculum web attached to this letter. This half term, pupils' new topic is 'The big wide world' where they will be learning about the land and sea and all that encompasses these from animals, nature and food to transport and professions. We are lucky enough to have lots of exciting events this half term including, a visit from Sussex police and food tasting from around the world.

As usual, my PPA time will take place now on **Wednesday mornings** and will be covered by Mrs Willard with PE still taking place on Wednesday too. Therefore, please ensure your child comes into school in their PE kits every Wednesday.

Class TA:

There has been a slight reshuffle with our class TA to ensure consistency for the children. Our class TAs remain the same but their times in the class are:

- Mrs Hilliard (Wednesday Mornings)
- Mrs Glackin (Wednesday afternoons)
- Mrs Jones (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday all day)

P.E. Kit/ Stationery:

P.E. will take place on **Wednesdays** and pupils should come into school on that day wearing their PE kits. As the weather gets colder, children may wish to wear black or navy tracksuit bottoms and old trainers for outdoor games. Pupils with longer hair will need to tie it back and those with earrings will need to either take them out for the PE session or cover them with ear tape. Please send in your child with a hair band and ear tape for PE sessions if they have longer hair or wear earrings. This means we can keep pupils safe during active sessions. Please also ensure clothing for both PE and school uniform is named. Thank you!

Drinking water:

This is available for pupils to drink in class when needed. Please ensure that your child has a labelled water bottle in school so they can stay hydrated throughout the day. Thank you!

Reading:

Pupils will visit the library every Thursday afternoon where Mrs Pratt, our librarian, will be on hand to help pupils choose their sharing book. There will be opportunities for children to read with an adult in school during:

- Daily Little Wandle reading group sessions
- At least one 1:1 reading session each week

However, I do ask that pupils read and discuss books with their families at home as it makes them all better readers!

Pupils are continuing to complete Daily Little Wandle reading group sessions in school to practice their reading skills and develop their reading fluency. Pupils will bring home on the Wednesday of each week a book wallet containing their home-reading diary, their **reading practice book, sharing book** along with their weekly phonics. We ask that these book wallets with the reading diary and reading books are brought back in on the Monday of each week. Thank you!

A **sharing book** is a book which pupils can talk about and enjoy with their parent/carer.

A **reading practice book** is matched to the pupil's phonics stage and they can read independently.

We ask that pupils read at least three times each week and more if possible to help your child become a fluent reader. Your child being able to read fluently will help them across the curriculum. Please ensure they do have time at home to read to an adult and read their reading practice book to help develop their fluency. We will take in the Reading Record Diaries each week on a **Monday** to see how pupils are getting on with their reading. Please do let me know if you have any questions related to reading or need help with any of this.

Homework:

Each week, we ask that pupils read at least three to five times, with their reading recorded in their Reading Records.

We also ask that pupils practise their newly learnt phonics sounds from that week at home. At home practise can be by completed via writing, drawing or games. Please adapt your style of phonics practise however necessary for your child. Children often need a variety of activities to ensure their engagement is maintained from week to week to reach maximum growth and understanding. Having said this, I do ask that if you complete a task which is not recorded in their book, please make a note of what you did so I am aware of their home learning.

Assistance:

If you have any free time and would be willing to help us in class on a regular basis (for hearing readers or cooking etc) or if you are available occasionally for specific activities then please let me know. For child protection purposes anyone who volunteers to help in our school must have received a satisfactory West Sussex DBS check before they can start. The office will arrange this and will need to book you in to fill out the online form.

Rewards:

We have our behaviour chart where children can progress up to our rainbow as a reward for great behaviour, kind friendship, doing their best, great work and more. If children remain on the rainbow until the end of the school day, they have made it to the pot of gold and will therefore, receive a sticker to wear with pride.

Healthy snack:

As part of our 'Healthy Schools Campaign', we ask that your child's break time snack includes pure fruit and vegetable snacks only but not fruit bars. Boxes/ packets of dried fruit are fine if they are pure and not laden with sugar. We ask that no nuts are sent into school. Please do let the school know if your child has any allergies or specific medical needs if you haven't already. Thank you!

We are sure that your child will settle quickly into the half term but if they have any questions or concerns at all, please encourage them to come and talk to me so we can sort any problems out. If you

would like to discuss any queries or concerns with me, please don't hesitate to contact the office to arrange a meeting. Finally, I would like to wish your child a happy half term in Reception class!

Yours faithfully,
Mr Cranfield

