



## Parents and Carers Information Leaflet – Autumn 1 Horse Chestnut Class

Class Teacher – Ms Pia Mutu

Teaching Assistant – Mr Vicente Estruch

### Dear Parents and Carers

#### **WELCOME BACK!**

Welcome back to a new term and new academic year. We are so pleased to welcome your children back to school.



#### **Attendance and Punctuality**

School gates open at **8:30**, and children can go up to their classrooms at **8.45**. During this time, teachers will provide individual support for pupils to consolidate their learning.

It is important that children arrive at school by **8:55** at the latest, as registers are taken and checked first thing and any absences followed up by the office staff. Remember to call and let us know if your child is going to be absent for any reason so we can record this in the register.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of attendance and punctuality. Good attendance at school is the single most important factor in ensuring that children and young people maximise their learning potential and have the best opportunities in adult life.

Being frequently late for school adds up to lost learning:

Arriving **5 minutes** late every day adds up to over **3 days** lost each year.

Arriving **15 minutes** late every day is the same as being absent for **2 weeks** a year.

Arriving **30 minutes** late every day is the same as being absent for **19 days** a year.

### **General Information**

#### **PE:**

This half-term, Horse Chestnut Class will have P.E. on **Wednesday**. On days that children have P.E. lessons scheduled, they are asked to come into school wearing their P.E. kit. They will remain in their kit for the whole day.

#### **Homework:**

Homework will be set on Google Classroom, integrating Oxford Reading Buddy, Times Table Rockstars and Mathletics.

Children will be set Reading, Spelling, English and Mathematics homework each week. Children should upload their homework online.

Home reading books will be sent home weekly. Please check the front of your child's reading record for the day they should bring their books in to be changed.

Please read with your child daily. Children should aim to read at home for **at least 10 minutes per day**.

### **Curriculum Overviews**

**English:** This half-term we will begin by exploring the narrative text 'Croc and Bird' by Alexis Deacon. Writing outcomes will include creating our own picture books stories, character descriptions, writing letters and writing in role of a character! Children will learn to use adjectives and conjunctions to support them in writing a range of super sentences. In the second part of the half-term we will be exploring a range of poems from 'Fantastic First Poems' by June Crebbin. We will learn and perform poems before learning to write our own simple poems inspired by what we read.

**Phonics:** We use the Read, Write Inc. Phonics programme to teach phonics in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Read Write Inc. Phonics is a complete and comprehensive reading programme that teaches children to read accurately and fluently with good comprehension. They learn to form each letter, spell correctly, and compose their ideas step-by-step. All children will be regularly assessed by the Reading Leader, Ms Carmichael, and will be placed in groups closely matched to their current reading level in order for them to make the best possible progress. We will be running parent workshops in the Spring Term to provide further information about the programme and how to support your child at home; please check the school newsletter for dates of upcoming workshops.

**Spelling:** This half-term, we will learn the following spelling rules:

- The /f/, /l/, /s/, /z/ and /k/ sounds are usually spelt as ff, ll, ss, zz and ck if they come straight after a single vowel letter in short words. Exceptions: if, pal, us, bus, yes.
- Digraphs –ai and –oi never used at the end of English words
- –ay and –oy used at the end of words and at the end of syllables
- Adding –s and –es to words
- Adding –er and –est to adjectives where no change is needed to the root word.
- Common Exception Words

Each week, a list of 10 spellings will be sent home, comprising of words relating to the spelling rule of the week. We will also learn common exception words. Common exception words are words that do not follow the common phonetic spelling rules of the language, or where the usual rules act in an unusual way.

**Reading:** Children will read daily in their Read, Write Inc. lessons, and will participate in a range of activities to help develop their word reading and comprehension skills, as well as promoting a love of reading for pleasure.

**Handwriting:** Children will practise forming capital and lower case letters correctly using Penpals. We are focusing on:

- Practising long-legged giraffe letters: l, I, t, u, j, y
- Writing words with 'll'
- Practising long-legged giraffe capital letters: L, I, T, U, J, U
- Practising one-armed robot letters: r, b, n, h, m, k, p
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### **Mathematics Year 1:**

In the following areas, we will learn to:

Number and Place Value

- Count objects to 20 and write numbers in numeral and words
- Represent numbers within 20
- Count backwards and forwards to 10 and then 20
- Partition tens and ones in a variety of ways using different representations
- Compare numbers to 20 using mathematical language

Addition and Subtraction

- Recognising coins and notes
- Facts families and number bonds to 10
- Addition by adding more, counting on and making 10

### **Mathematics in Year 2:**

In the following areas, we will learn to:

Number and Place Value

- Count objects to 100 and write numbers in numeral and words
- Represent numbers within 100
- Partition tens and ones in a variety of ways using different representations
- Compare and order numbers

Addition and Subtraction

- Count money –notes and coins
- Fact families –addition and subtraction bonds to 20
- Find 10 more and 10 less
- Add and subtract multiples of 10
- Add a 2-digit and 1-digit number (crossing ten)
- Add two 2-digit numbers (not crossing ten)

**Science:** Our Science topic this half-term is 'What is in your habitat?'. We will learn to:

- Identify and compare different habitats
- Sequence the animals in a food chain based on what they eat.
- Make observations of features of living things.

We will continue by looking at 'Our Changing World'. We will learn to:

- Observe animals in their habitats and notice how they change through the year
- Begin to learn about animal life cycles
- work scientifically by making careful observations over time, using simple equipment and recording their observations in a range of different ways

**Computing:** Computing lessons will be focused on 'Digital Literacy'

**History:** Our learning question for History this half-term is, 'Important Events in the History of Britain'. We will learn to:

- Know the time and place of important events in history
- Know the events of the Gunpowder Plot
- Explain why we have Bonfire Night
- Know the events of the Great Fire of London
- Explain why we have Remembrance Day

**Geography:** Geography will be taught in the second half of the Autumn Term.

**Art:** Our art skills focus for this half-term will be drawing. We will learn to:

- collect and share ideas;
- explore and experiment with materials;
- develop confidence using a range of marks to draw what they observe, know and remember;
- understand that marks can have meanings attached to them;
- develop control over a variety of drawing tools and materials, using them selectively and purposefully

- look and talk about drawings;
- evaluate their drawing process and outcome;

try to interpret drawings

**Religious Education:** In R.E. our learning question is, 'Why Did Jesus Teach The Lord's Prayer As The Way To Pray?'. We will be exploring:

- The importance of prayer to Christians, and in particular, The Lord's Prayer;
- How this prayer is the way that Jesus taught his followers to pray to God;
- The meaning of each phrase in The Lord's Prayer;
- How The Lord's Prayer is used by Christians worldwide.

**Music:** We are using 'Charanga' and our style for this half term is South African Style with the 'Hands, Feet, Heart' theme.

**Physical Education:** PE lessons will be taught by specialist coaches from the YMCA.

**PSHE:** This half-term, our PSHE lessons will focus on 'Being Me in the World'. We will discuss:

- How we can make our class a safe and fair place
- How our behaviour can impact those around us
- How some of our choices can be helpful/unhelpful to others and how some of these choices can have negative/positive consequences.