



DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pear Tree Lane
Dunnington
York YO19 5QG
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Headteacher: Caroline Hancy



7th September 2016

Dear parent/guardian,

Welcome back. I hope you have had a lovely summer break, with the chance to relax and make many happy memories. As we are ready for the start of a new school year, I would like to give you some information about your child's new class.

Our Learning

I believe that it is very important that you are aware of the topics that your children are learning in school, so you can support their learning and interests in these areas, outside of the classroom. Our topic for this half term is 'Why aren't humans like tigers?' and further information will be available soon on the school's website.

Getting Involved

Throughout the year there will be many opportunities for you to become involved in trips, special days and topic celebrations. Our first trip is just around the corner on Wednesday 21st September, for which we will need some parent helpers, further details to follow. As always, if you do have any free time or any special talents or experiences you would like to share with the class, we would be very grateful for your support.

PE

PE lessons will take place on Tuesdays and Fridays, however as sometimes timetables may change, please ensure your child's PE kit is **brought in on Monday and taken home on Friday**. Their kit should **always** include: a plain white T-Shirt, a sweatshirt (during colder weather), black shorts, jogging/tracksuit bottoms (for colder weather), plimsolls/indoor use footwear, trainers/outdoor use footwear. Jewellery is not permitted for PE and children with long hair will need to use a bobble. Also it is vital your child has a water bottle with them every day and that this, along with **all their kit and uniform is named**.

Homework

One of the greatest things you can do to help your child this year is to read with them every day. During KS1 there is a big emphasis on fluency, speed and the comprehension of texts. I will endeavour to read with each child individually over the coming week and stick a set of question prompts in their reading records which will help to develop their comprehension skills. It would be really appreciated if you could make a comment in their records when they have read with you. In addition to this, weekly spelling lists will be given to year 1 and 2 pupils on a Wednesday, to be tested on for the coming week. Year 2 pupils will also be taking part in a mental maths home task called 'Mad Maths' but further details of this will be given at the Year 2 welcome meeting, dates to follow.

Communication

If you have anything you wish to discuss in detail, I welcome appointments on Mondays after school. However if there is something more urgent please contact the school office and I will get back to you ASAP. I also endeavour to check my emails on a daily basis during school time and can be contacted at:

Kate.McGowan@york.gov.uk

Routines

As all children are now in KS1, it is encouraged that they can be independent when coming into school and sorting their own belongings. They will be practising their spellings at 8.55am while the register is being taken. If they need their reading books changing, there is a box to put their book bag in, next to the door. We also ask that pencil cases and toys are not brought into school (except for birthday assemblies). Also that any money coming into school must be in a named envelope/container or transferred via Parent Pay.

Finally, I would like to say what a privilege it is to be able to teach your children this year, many of whom I have been lucky enough to know already. We have a lovely class and an exciting year ahead!

Mrs McGowan