



FRIDAY EMAIL UPDATE - 11th September 2020

Dear parents/carers,

Over the past week and a half, it's been wonderful to see all the children settle so well back into school and adapt to the changes to our 'normal' routines. Our main focus has been on mental health and wellbeing, as well as getting back into the curriculum. This term we are teaching a broad and balanced curriculum but with a focus on maths and English to provide additional opportunities to identify and cover gaps in learning from over the last 6 months.

Curriculum News

The attached Curriculum News includes key curriculum information for this term along with regular class expectations. Please do read it all as there are some changes to how we are organising spelling and reading this year. There is a change for our infant class too as we are extending the use of Tapestry for both Years 1 & 2. This will further develop our home/school learning partnership and give additional opportunities to share children's work, assessment judgements and their progress with families at home as well as provide a way for parents to share and record their child's development and achievements at home with school. An information leaflet is attached to this email which explains how Tapestry works if you are unfamiliar with it or need a refresher from when your child is not in reception.

Additional Information Regarding Reading in School

Each child in Key Stage 2 has completed a computer task which gives us an indication as to the level they should be choosing books from - this is usually written as a range, such as 3.4-4.8. Most of the books in our library will have a specific level written on them to help the children know which level would be suitable for them. Once a child has completed a book we ask them to complete a short comprehension activity on the computer which is made up of either 5 or 10 questions depending on the level of the book. The results are shown on screen immediately, along with chance to see what questions they answered incorrectly. If a child scores less than 60% they are asked to re-read the book and complete the activity again. These activities are usually completed in school and the children refer to them as 'AR tests' however during lockdown children were also able to complete these tests at home which worked well, so we are going to continue this. When children finish books at home they are welcome to complete the test straight away using this weblink - <https://ukhosted28.renlearn.co.uk/2242096> They should know their login details, but they are also written in the front of their reading records should they forget.

In addition to this we will be running a reading challenge for pupils in Key Stage 2. Each book is worth a number of points, which is shown inside the front cover, depending on the complexity and length of the book. For example, a Mr Man book would be worth 0.5 points, however James and the Giant Peach would be worth 4 points. Every child has been set a points target linked to their initial computer task, which is also written in their reading record. We will celebrate individual and class success by awarding certificates along the way, but need your support to enable all children to achieve their target.

Home/school Agreement

Your child will also be bringing home a paper copy of the home school agreement (I've attached a digital copy to this email for your records). Please could you read and sign it and return to school next week. Class teachers will be sharing these with their classes today.

Other Information

Next week the September newsletter will be going out. This newsletter will include more information about our remote learning plan in case anyone / a class is required to self-isolate. We are finalising the details of this, this week.

In between Newsletters there will be regular Samlesbury Updates as and when we need to share information with you and keep you up to date with what's going on in school. In the meantime, please do contact school, or see us at the gate, if you have any queries or questions.

Best wishes,

Lucy Sutton

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