

Springfield Primary Academy

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Care, Collaboration, Challenge

September 2023

Information for parents of Year 1 and 2 children – Autumn 2023

Dear parents

Welcome to a new school year at Springfield Primary Academy. This letter aims to provide you with information within the Year 1 and 2 classes this term.

Communication

As stated in the newsletter earlier this week, all letters will be sent through MCaS, but we will continue to use Class Dojo to keep you updated with any changes to the week, or to give reminders where necessary.

For your child's safety, please can you make sure that you inform the class teacher (at the door in the morning) or contact the school office if someone other than yourselves is collecting your child from school.

Learning

This term there will be one topic – London. Autumn 1 will be predominantly geography based and the children will learn about capital cities of the UK and will spend time learning about London, our capital city, and its famous landmarks. In Autumn 2, the topic will predominantly be history based, with the children looking at key events in history, including The Great Fire of London and the diaries of Samuel Pepys. Over the whole term, children will be looking at, and exploring different materials and their uses in science.

Grouping

This year we have 3 mixed Y1/2 classes. The children will spend most of their time in these classes, although there will be grouping for phonics and maths lessons.

Staff

The Y1/2 classes this year are:

Mrs Gascoyne and Miss James

Miss Bunn (Mrs Gascoyne on a Wednesday morning)

Mrs White (Miss Powell on a Thursday)

Other staff supporting the classes will be Mrs McUrich, Mrs Tuck, Mrs Wright, Mrs Cartwright and Mrs Kirkham.

Spelling

The children will be given spellings on a Friday to learn at home. These spellings will be based on the phonic phase that your child is working on. Children will be able to log into EdShed.com to access their spelling words for that week and engage in spelling games and activities to aid them. Your support in helping your child to practise their spellings would be greatly appreciated. Spellings will be tested the following Thursday.

Reading

It is most important that your child continues to read at home on a regular basis. This could be a reading scheme book, a 'love for reading' book from our class library or other books that you may have at home. There is an expectation that your child reads at least 3 times a week, and ideally, every day. Please ensure you record each time your child reads in their reading record, and return it to school, in their book bag, each Wednesday, books can then be changed if necessary and sent home again on a Friday. Unfortunately, we cannot guaranteed that books returned after Wednesday will be changed

PE

There will be 2 PE lessons per week. Please ensure that your child arrives at school in the appropriate PE kit on these days (Springfield PE shirt and black shorts). Wherever possible, PE will take place outside, so as it gets colder, children may wear a black or red coloured sweatshirt/school PE hoodie and plain black leggings/jogging bottoms. Please note that earrings must be taken out for PE lessons and members of staff cannot do this. Children cannot take part in PE lessons wearing earrings and are unable to cover earrings with plasters. We kindly ask that items of PE kit, particularly sweatshirts, and all other uniform are named and checked at the end of the term, as names tend to wash off easily.

PE days are as follows:

Miss Bunn and Mrs Gascoyne's class – Wednesday and Friday

Mrs White and Miss Powell's class – Wednesday and Thursday

Mrs Gascoyne and Miss James' class – Tuesday and Wednesday

Homework

We are continuing with the homework journals. These produce some high quality homework and enable children and parents to share 'longer' pieces of work. Every child will be given a homework book, which will be their responsibility. Each term there will be a homework 'menu' stuck into the homework book. This will contain a set of interesting and fun activities related to the work taught in class. Children should choose an activity, and once completed, bring the homework book into class. We hope that this will encourage your child to take more 'ownership' of their homework as well as improving the quality of homework. Children can complete these at their own pace, but should aim to complete at least 3 pieces each half term.

We kindly ask that before and after school, children refrain from going on the tyres, trim trail and using any of the equipment. This is because the playground is very busy at these times.

Yours sincerely

Miss Bunn Mrs White Mrs Gascoyne Miss James