Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school after the half term break. The following letter is to inform you about our new topic areas that we will be covering up to Christmas. A topic web is also attached. As you can imagine, as well as being busy with our new topics, we will be fitting in lots of exciting Christmas activities too!

We will look forward to presenting our Christmas nativity to you in the hall. There will be two performances of this on Tuesday 10th December at 9.30 am and 5.30pm. Ticket information will be sent out from the office nearer the time. We will also inform you of any costuming requirements.

We will be 'Remembering' and thinking about the First and Second World War during the first couple of weeks in November - how important the sacrifices were of the soldiers, their families, and their impact for future generations.

<u>Reading books</u> - Monday and Thursday. Please send your child with their school reading book on these 2 days. If you could fill in the comments about your child's reading in their reading record book, this helps us to see who has read their book and then Mrs Grayken can change them regularly. We assess every half term and check the children's fluency levels, making sure that this in line with their learning in their phonics group.

<u>Phonics</u>: We read every day in our small phonics groups, using the Read, Write Inc programme, so children are constantly building on their variety of reading experiences. Please help your child with their phonics homework – it is of utmost importance to them that they can consolidate their learning at home and become fluent readers to access the school curriculum.

<u>Spellings:</u> Thank you for your support in helping your child learn their spellings. Spelling tests take place every Monday morning and new spellings sent home via 'Class dojo portfolio' for the following week. Everyone seems to be getting used to this system, including the teachers and TA's, as it is new to us too!

<u>Snacks</u>: Please ensure that your child brings a healthy snack Mon – Fri **o**r school toast is available to buy. One item is sufficient.

Fruit is provided by school every afternoon playtime.

<u>PE</u>: We will continue to wear our PE clothes on a Thursday. Please do keep practising independent dressing skills, reversing of a jumper once it has been taken off, button-fastening, zips on coats and fastening shoelaces (although Velcro fastenings at this stage are encouraged).

I hope you find the above information useful. Please let us know if you have any questions about your child or their learning. Thank you,

Yours sincerely, Mrs N. Cahalin & Mrs J Fitzsimmons