



Friday 8th September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Autumn Term

We hope you enjoyed your Summer break and that the children are ready for a busy year ahead. We are looking forward to helping the children settle into their new class as they learn many new things and develop their skills throughout the year.

Our topic this term is 'Majestic Monarchy' and we are looking forward to exploring the changing monarchy in British history with the children. Please find attached the topic web explaining what we will be covering in each subject of the curriculum. There is also a sheet explaining maths skills you can practise at home to support learning in school.

In Woodpeckers, the children will be taught by Miss Wright and supported by Mrs Lafford in the morning. On Thursday afternoons the children will be taught by Mrs Dix or by Mrs Cleaver and Mrs Lafford in Forest School. There will also be opportunities when the children work with different children and staff within school.

We encourage parents to support their child's learning at home. We understand that children are often busy or tired after school but would like the children to try and read aloud at home and talk about what they have read as regularly as possible. Please write any comments and sign your child's reading record when you have listened to them read. We will also send home their red homework book on Friday. Homework should be sent back into school by the following Wednesday.

On Tuesday afternoons, the children will be taking part in Wider Opportunities music sessions with a specialist music teacher. Each term they will be learning to play a different musical instrument, working towards performances to share their skills with you at the end of term. During the Autumn term we will be learning how to play the tin whistle. We are all looking forward to giving the children the opportunity to develop their musical talents in a fun and enjoyable way.

On Wednesday afternoons, the children will participate in P.E. sessions led by Mr Stephens. All the children will also participate in a further P.E. lesson throughout the week, so it is important that they have their P.E. kit in school everyday. The P.E. kit should consist of:

- * **Short sleeved T – shirt** – plain white
- * **Shorts** – plain black or navy
- * **Tracksuit bottoms** – plain black or navy (for outdoor P.E.)
- * **Jumper / fleece** – plain (for outdoor P.E.)
- * **Socks** – white
- * **P.E. pumps / trainers** - suitable for physical activity inside and outside



If your child takes part in a sporting after school club, you may find it easier for them to bring in another set of kit for this.

Small stud pierced earrings can be worn but must be removed by the child or covered for all P.E. lessons.

Please ensure that your child brings in a coat to school and that they wear sensible black shoes everyday as the weather is so unpredictable.

In Woodpeckers, the children are encouraged to be responsible for all of their belongings please help them by ensuring that all belongings – each piece of uniform, school bags, Forest School kit, pencil cases, P.E. kit, lunchbox and water bottles etc. are clearly named so that they can be quickly reunited with your child.

Children in KS2 are not provided with free fruit in the morning, so if you would like your child to have something to eat during morning break you will need to provide a healthy snack for them to enjoy.

They will still be able to pay for milk (please contact the school office if you would like to order this) and water is always available.

Stationery equipment will be provided for the children, however in Woodpeckers they are allowed to bring in a **small** pencil case filled with their own equipment to use in class. Please ensure that precious items are not included as the children will be responsible for looking after them. The children will continue to write in pencil, but in KS2 have the opportunity to be awarded with a 'Pen Licence' if they show consistently neat joined handwriting.

Please remember to regularly check your child's hair for headlice and treat if necessary.

If your child is being collected by someone different from normal then please telephone the school office to let us know.

If you wish to contact us, then please either speak to us at the end of the school day or make an appointment for a mutually convenient time via Mrs Blake in the school office.

We hope you will be able to join us for Woodpeckers Autumn Celebration Worship on Friday 10th November.

Kind regards,

Miss Wright and Mrs Lafford

Class Teacher & Teaching Assistant

