

9<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a fantastic start Oak Class have had to settling into Year 1! We have already started our learning of number and place value in Maths, started thoughtful and interesting class discussions and built on vocabulary knowledge in English. We have also taken much interest in our History topic of 'The Big Dig' looking specifically at Mary Anning and fossils.

Understanding the start of new school year is busy, I thought I would make you aware of the following:

### Homework

**Doodle Maths:** Per week, the children will be expected to complete 20 minutes of Doodle Maths (can be spread over the course of the week to reduce screen time). The activities will be based on what we are learning in class and will help your child to recap and consolidate this learning.

**Weekly Spellings:** Every Friday, a sticker will be put into your child's Reading Record. These will consist of 4 words (in black) which relate to their phonics learning of the week and 2 of the Year 1 Common Exception Words (in red). The children will then be tested on these the following Friday in class.

**Reading:** Please can children be heard to read **AT LEAST** 3 times a week at home, have this signed, and could their books and journals come to school daily. This way we can monitor progress and change books when necessary. All children will be required to read R.W.I. scheme books twice, to aid their fluency of sight word recognition. Particularly as your child will complete their Phonics Screening Test in June, it is important to ensure they are able to confidently pick up and understand their set 1,2, and 3 sounds (used in the R.W.I books). When returning any slips or letters into school, please can you pop these into reading records so it is easier for staff to locate them.

### General

- PE is on a **Thursday**. We have lots of exciting lessons this year, and with the correct kit, we can ensure your child can participate effectively. Please make sure that your child comes to school dressed in the appropriate attire; Longvernal P.E. T-Shirt, black shorts or sports trousers and daps or trainers.
- Forest School is on a **Wednesday** afternoon. The sessions take place in all types of weather (unless extreme) so please ensure that they are appropriately dressed. Such items of clothing including a long-sleeved top, trousers and waterproofs. Wellies are to be kept at school (do let me know if you need them

to be taken home at any point). As it starts to get colder, please provide your child with warmer items, including hats and gloves.

- Finally, please could you email myself or the office with an up-to-date 'approved pick up list' for your child, which we can update in records. This should include anyone who may be likely to pick your child up at the end of the day. You can share a password with me/the office via email if you require. For safety reasons, I will not let your child go home with anyone who is not on the list or been discussed with either myself or the office prior to pick up, regardless of whether the child knows the person or not.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in contact with me via email or face to face before or after school.

Thank you for your support, and I am sure that we will have a fantastic year in Oak Class!

Kind regards,

Annalise Black

