



BAMPTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had an enjoyable half term break and the children are refreshed. We have a busy term ahead of us with our Nativity, 'A King is Born'. Your child will be receiving their lines and more information about the Nativity in the run up to the performance.

We will be continuing our main curriculum theme of 'Walk like an Egyptian – Ancient Egypt' this term, with an exciting trip to the Tutankhamun museum, where we will get a glimpse into the history of Ancient Egypt. We will be focusing on these key questions during this half of term: What do Ancient Egyptian symbols mean? Who was Howard Carter? How did Egypt fall?

Please could your child bring in a waterproof coat into school every day.

This letter provides you with some information that you will find useful for the rest of term/year ahead.

Routines:

Please ensure that your child checks that they have the following each day:

- Book bag with:
 - Reading diary to be completed on a daily basis.
 - Spelling/Handwriting to be completed on a daily basis.
 - Home learning to be completed on a weekly basis (Optional).
- P.E. kit for indoor and outdoor PE and swimming kit, which needs to be in all week as PE/swimming times may vary.
- **Forest school clothes – a top and joggers that you don't mind getting dirty with wellies.**

During the mornings, the children will be expected to put their book bag in the box, hand in their reading diaries and put their sports kit and clothes on their peg. There will be activities on the table or on the board for the children to complete during the morning activity. You are more than welcome to sit with your child and join in with their activity.

Please remember that swimming and PE kits should be in separate drawstring bags which are clearly labelled. This makes it easier for the children to hang their belongings up on their peg. Could you also please check that your child's name is clearly visible in their PE kit and school uniform with a permanent marker. This will allow the children to easily identify their belongings in school.

Reading – Your child will continue to bring home a reading book every day to share with you. In Squirrel Class, we recommend a minimum of fifteen minutes reading per day, ensuring adults sign off the daily reading in the Reading Diaries with the name of the book, its level and any comments about their reading and understanding. I will check the Reading Diaries daily. It is very beneficial for your child to read to an adult regularly which will build their knowledge of different words and help them gain confidence with their reading. Please ensure that you discuss their understanding of the text.

Year 1 Phonics – A sheet will go home each week for your child to complete. There will be tricky words, key letters or sounds which will have joins on for them to practise.

Year 2 Spellings – A list of spellings will be given out every fortnight. I will then test these spellings at random times during and after that period. We will be regularly learning, practising and testing these words so that they become completely internalised by the child. Children should be able to apply their spellings to their own written work and not just in an isolated test. For their spelling home learning tasks, they should learn their words, using different methods they have learnt in school. As an extension to this the children are then to put each of the words into a sentence to show they understand the meaning.

Home School Learning Diary (Homework) – In addition to reading and spelling, a home learning grid will be sent out for children to complete as an option to further their understanding in our topic. These activities can be done with parents. Please bring in any pieces of work so that we can share it with the class.

Times Tables - Children should learn their table facts (2, 3, 5 and 10) as often as possible, through recall, counting up and back in that multiple and, when confident, learning any corresponding division facts.

Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFS) - Children should learn their number facts as often as possible, through recall, counting up and back. The children will be tested every week. The children will also be expected to know their KIRFS by the end of each term.

Snack - Your child will be provided with a healthy snack daily, during break time.

Money - We request that all money brought into school be placed in an envelope with your child's name, the reason for payment, and the amount enclosed on the front. This allows the office to identify who the payment is from and what it is for.

Letters or Reply Slips - Any letters or reply slips, which need to be returned, can be put in your child's book bag. The children are encouraged to check them each morning and give things in after the register.

Hopefully, the Autumn Term will be enjoyable for all the children, staff and parents associated with Squirrel class. I believe in an 'open door policy'. This means that I am more than happy for parents and carers to come into the class to take a look at the fabulous work that the children produce in their books. With this in mind, if you feel that you would like to help in Squirrel class at any time over the year, perhaps to read with some children or with upcoming trips, please come and speak to me as we are always looking out for helpful parents. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or questions.

Many thanks,

Chris Carter

Year 1/2 teacher (Squirrel Class)

c.carter@swsf.org