



BAMPTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back! First and foremost, I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year and I hope that you all had a lovely Christmas with your friends and family. I would also like to take the opportunity to say thank you for all the lovely cards, gifts and well wishes I received. They were all much appreciated.

Our key question this half-term is '**What can watercolour do?**' which we will explore across our curriculum. In Art we will be learning how watercolour paint has special characteristics. We shall be exploring how we can use the elements of surprise and accident to help us create art. We will also develop our painting by reflecting upon what we see, and adding new lines and shapes to help develop imagery.

For further information on our curriculum this year please look at the Squirrel class page on the school website.

The rest of this letter provides you with some information that you will find useful for the term ahead.

Routines:

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

- A **water bottle** that can be filled up from the classroom tap.
- Their **reading book** and **reading diary**
- There is no need to bring in a rucksack or large bag into school as we do not have space in the cloakroom area. Please continue to bring your child's book bag which we will keep in clear boxes in the classroom.
- Please could your child bring a **waterproof coat** into school every day, especially as the weather tends to deteriorate during autumn and the onset of winter.
- If it is due to be a sunny day in September could your child bring in a **hat** and have an application of **sun cream**.
- Your child should be wearing the correct uniform as specified in the uniform policy on the school website.

PE sessions

We will have our PE lesson on **Monday** and **Friday**. The children will need to come to school dressed appropriately without having the need of a separate PE kit bag left in school.

Devon County Council requires that jewellery, including earrings and studs, be removed for P.E. and related activities for health and safety reasons.

Home Learning

Home learning is an important part of your child's education. The home learning set will be planned to reinforce the work being covered in class. Each week home learning activities are set on a Friday. We will be using Ed Shed for maths homework. Every child has been given a log in and password for Ed Shed and TT Rock Stars. We have also ensured that they have these stuck in the front of their reading diaries so that they can access these sites independently in our Computing sessions.

Times Tables

Children should learn their table facts (2, 5 and 10 for Year 2) as often as possible, through recall, counting up and back in that multiple and, when confident, learning any corresponding division facts. Every child in Year 1 and 2 has been registered onto Times Tables Rock Stars and has been given a login and password again so that they can practise their times tables at home.

Daily Reading

Your child will continue to bring home their Read, Write, Inc reading and book bag book to share with you. I would like to take this opportunity to stress how important it is that you read with your child for 10-15 minutes each day, then sign the reading diary and make any necessary comments. We check the diaries on a daily basis and those children who are reading daily will earn certificates as they progress up the class reading ladder. 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. We have a regular reading raffle in school in which children who have been reading regularly at home are entered to win a book.

Snack

Year 1 and 2 children are provided with a healthy snack daily just before break time as this is funded by the government for all children in KS1.

As always, I believe in an 'open door policy', so please feel free to come into the classroom in the morning as the children settle into their morning task.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or questions.

Many thanks,

Miss Johnstone
Squirrel Class Teacher