



BAMPTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you enjoyed the Easter holidays and that the children are feeling refreshed and ready to continue their learning in Squirrel class.

Our key question this half-term is '**Why is there a Castle Street in Bampton?**' which we will explore across our curriculum. In History we will be learning about different types of castles. We will be visiting the site of the Motte and Bailey castle in Bampton and our trip will be to Dunster Castle on 9th May which you have already received information about.

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.
- Your child should be wearing the correct uniform as specified in the uniform policy on the school website.

PE and Swimming sessions

We will have our PE lesson on **Monday** and swimming lessons on **Friday**. The children will need to come to school dressed appropriately without having the need of a separate PE kit bag left in school. Please ensure that your child's swimming kit bag is named and contains the following:

- swimming costume (boys need slim fit trunks/shorts, not "boardie style" shorts)
- goggles
- towel

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 times table in Year 1 and 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.

Children in both Year 1 and 2 should also be logging onto Numbots (using the same username and password) to increase their number fluency and practise skills they have learnt in class.

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