

# Welcome Back!

## Nightingale Class

### Autumn 1

Welcome to Year Two and to the start of a new school year. This newsletter will outline a few key changes to the school day, general communication, new class routines and our curriculum over the next half term.

#### Our School Day

Each class has a staggered start and end time. Our school day begins at 8:55am and finishes at 3:10pm. Please wait on the Key Stage Two playground. All children must stay with their parent at all times whilst waiting, both before and after school. The picnic benches, wooden stage area and tyres are all out of use. Please do not use these, and ensure that children are not using them either. I will come out to greet you each morning, and the children will head up the ramp and into the side door of the Year Two classroom. The same routine will apply at the end of the day - please wait on the Key Stage Two playground and the children will be brought out to you. Lunch will be at 12:30 and will be eaten in the classroom. The rest of the time will be spent outside in our class bubble.

#### Our Classroom

The Year Two classroom may look a little different this year, however our love of learning, enthusiasm for teaching and expectations still remain. The tables have been arranged to minimise risk to the children and staff. Please see Tapestry for photos and videos. Though this may not look like our usual set up, please be assured that we will still have a collaborative way of learning and will do our best to make this time as 'normal' as possible for the children.

#### Behaviour Policy

Our school's behaviour policy has been updated for the start of the school term. In our classroom this will look like...

- ✓ A positive atmosphere, full of praise toward good learning behaviours (resilience, relationships, resourcefulness and being reflective);
- ✓ Praise will be communicated to parents through badges on Marvellous Me;
- ✓ Good hygiene and hand washing will form much of our daily routine - this will be praised and encouraged;

- ✓ Rewards for excellent independent and collaborative learning can be earned, such as free time or whole class rewards that have been previously decided;
- ✓ House points and 'Family Group' points can be earned as a result of the above, including positive contributions to the class, regular reading and showing an enthusiasm with home learning tasks.

Minor behaviour incidences will be dealt with in class, following our school's behaviour policy. On the rare occasion where the above expectations have resulted in loss of free time, sanctions or are repeated behaviours, I will make contact to discuss this over the phone.

Such incidences may include:

- Refusal to follow instructions, including social distancing and health and safety measures;
- Any instances of bullying or discrimination against others;
- Repeated low-level behaviours that cause disruption to other's learning in class;
- Injury to another child;

The full behaviour policy is available on our school website. Please see this for further information.

### Communication

Due to social distancing measures, I am unable to have any face to face conversations. Should you need to speak to me, please either send a message on Tapestry or call the office and leave a message. I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Communication from school will be via Marvellous Me and Tapestry. Please check these daily and 'like' or 'high five' to acknowledge they have been read. Paper letters will not be sent home.

Please also use Tapestry to upload homework, or any additional home learning for us to see, share and celebrate with the rest of the class.

### Other Key Information

Please do not bring book bags into school. Reading books, water bottles and fruit need to be carried into school where they will be kept separately from others belongings. Windows and doors will be kept open during the day to ensure good ventilation. It could get chilly, so please do dress accordingly - jumpers and coats are a must. If your child has an inhaler, they need to bring this with them on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September in a clear, named bag.

# Our Curriculum

## Reading, Writing and Phonics

During the first week of term, I will spend time reading with all children to identify where they are currently at. New reading books will be allocated once your child has read 1:1 with an adult in class. Please ensure you record each time you read at home in your reading record so that we can keep track of this at school. Reading rewards are given weekly for those children who manage to reach particular milestones. Books will now be changed every Monday and Thursday. A box will be available in the classroom for books to be put into, and changed, on these days. Please remember, book bags must not be brought to school - books and reading records need to be carried loosely into school on these days.

We will continue to write for a variety of purposes, focusing on a fiction and non-fiction unit each half term. All writing will be based around a familiar story, and model text which will support the learning of key writing skills and encourage the use of rich and exciting vocabulary. We shall continue to develop our use of punctuation accurately and consistently, and begin to edit our work to reflect our understanding of this.

For the first few weeks of the Autumn term, we shall be recapping Phase 5 phonics. This is the phase which is covered in Year One, and forms part of the Phonics Screening. As you will be aware, the children should have taken this assessment in June, however due to school closures, this did not happen. The government have outlined that all Year 2 children shall take the Phonics Screening check in the Autumn term. Those who do not reach the pass mark will have the opportunity to try again in June 2021. More information on how to support your child with this will be sent home shortly.

## Maths

In Maths, we will recap on knowledge of number bonds to 10 and 20 before moving onto bonds to 100. We will deepen our knowledge and understanding of numbers to 100, including place value (tens and ones). We will develop addition and subtraction strategies, including both concrete and pictorial and using a variety of resources. We will continue to count in 2s, 5s and 10s, with a focus on understanding, recalling and applying the 2 times tables effectively. In Mental Arithmetic, we shall work on speed and accuracy with number bonds, odd and even numbers, halving and doubling, 1 more/1 less, 10 more/10 less than any given number to 100.

## Wider Curriculum

For the first three weeks of term, our learning shall be focused around the book 'Here We Are'. We will learn about the world around us, and our place within this. We will also explore the local community, how to be a good citizen and the positive impacts living a healthy and active lifestyle has on our health and well-being.

We shall then launch our main topic 'To Infinity... and Beyond!' where we will learn all about the historic moon landing. We will celebrate National Space Week, and look closely at the achievements of Neil Armstrong, concluding our topic by creating our own fact files.

## P.E.

Our P.E. day is a Thursday. Please come to school wearing your P.E. kit. You do not need to bring a change of clothes - the children will wear P.E. kit all day. It is vitally important that the correct P.E. kit must be worn, and must be weather appropriate. Please note that all P.E. shall be taking place outside. P.E. kit must consist of either:

- ✓ Black school P.E. t-shirt or a **plain black** t-shirt with black shorts or;
- ✓ Plain black tracksuit which may consist of plain black joggers and a jumper, or zippy hoody. Plain black P.E. t-shirts must be worn underneath.

Clothing with logos (other than the school logo) or football kits **must not be worn**. Suitable footwear must be worn. Please note that we cannot help with laces so slip on or Velcro shoes are preferable unless your child can independently tie their own laces.

## Home Learning

This shall continue to take the form of a half-termly project. This can be uploaded to Tapestry, or brought into school should restrictions allow (more information will be communicated on this shortly).

Spellings and Mathletics will be set weekly on a Friday. Mathletics is due by the following Wednesday, and spelling tests are every Friday.

We are really looking forward to a busy and exciting half term in Nightingale Class!

Miss Winwick and Miss Hastings

