



Ampney Crucis C of E Primary School

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A Voluntary Aided School

"Together we live, learn and flourish."

2.9.26

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year. It has been lovely getting to know the children this week and meeting you all.

Each day, your child will be in class with Miss Jackson and Mrs Gardener. Miss Jackson will have time out of the classroom on a Tuesday afternoon and Thursday afternoon, and during this time, the class will be led by Mrs Balloch on Tuesday and Mrs Gardener and Mrs Cordell on a Thursday.

This term our big question is 'Why did the Great Fire spread so quickly?' As historians this term, we will be exploring the Great Fire of London. We will discover how the fire began, sequence the key events, and investigate why the fire spread so quickly. In Science, we will learn to classify animals into mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians. Children will explore animal features, discover which animals are warm- or cold-blooded, and learn about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. We will also observe the changes taking place in our school environment as we move from summer into autumn.

In English, we will be exploring the texts 'You Can't Take an Elephant on the Bus' and 'Last Stop on Market Street'. We will focus on the key features of sentence writing, including capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. Year 2 pupils will build on these skills by using conjunctions, contractions and the power of three to make their writing more detailed and engaging.

In Maths, we will begin the year by focusing on place value, including reading, writing, comparing and ordering one- and two-digit numbers. Children will explore different

representations of number before moving on to properties of 2D shapes and methods for addition and subtraction.

In Art, children will be exploring colour mixing and investigating the work of six key abstract artists. In Computing, children will explore how information technology is used positively in our lives at home and within the community. We will also discuss how to use devices responsibly and safely. In Music, we will be learning to keep a steady pulse and identify sound patterns. In RE, we will be exploring the question: 'What is it like to be brought up in a Jewish home in the UK today?'

Reading books and spellings

Reading books will be changed each Friday. Each child has been given a book linked to the phonics scheme and the sounds we are learning. Year 1 children are beginning to learn Level 5 sounds and Year 2 are consolidating their phonics knowledge by looking closely at different spelling patterns. Reading is to be recorded in the children's reading record. This can be a note of the book read but also include any comments or questions you may have. The book and reading record should be in school **every day** as the children will be asked to read to an adult throughout the week.

Children will be sent spellings home on a Friday to practise throughout the week. These are examples of words containing the spelling rule we are learning. This will also include two common exception words from the week. The spellings will be tested the following Friday. Spelling books need to be in school **each Friday** to receive new spellings and be checked.

Year 2 children will take part in reading fluency sessions using *The Snake Who Came to Stay* by Julia Donaldson.

P.E.

PE will be on a Wednesday and Thursday. **Please can children wear their full P.E. kit to school every Wednesday and Thursday.** Please note that no jewellery is to be worn during P.E. and earrings should be removed before the lesson or will have to be covered with medical tape. Also, long hair will need to be tied back on PE days, so it might be worthwhile having a couple of spare hairbands in their bag just in case. We will be developing our cricket and dodging skills this term.

A few reminders:

- The children need to bring fresh water to school each day in a named water bottle.

- Please ensure your child is always dressed appropriately for the weather as we complete the daily mile and use the outdoor area daily, this includes sunhats, raincoats, winter hats etc. We will try and get outdoors as much as possible, whatever the weather!
- Show and tell – this takes place each Friday. Children are welcome to bring objects in to share (these are stored securely) on a Thursday or Friday. Any photos can be emailed to the office to be shared. Please ensure nothing is sent in that is valuable or delicate. We have talked about as a class about thinking carefully about what we want to share so we feel confident sharing and are able to answer questions.
- If someone else is collecting your child at the end of the school day, please ensure you email the office (admin@ampneycrucis.gloucs.sch.uk) even if you have spoken to someone at drop off.
- If you have any cardboard tubes, bottle lids or junk modelling materials we are always on the lookout for materials to keep our classroom stocked.

I hope this answers questions you may have, please ask if you have any other questions.

Many thanks,

Miss Jackson and Mrs Gardener