**’Let your light shine before others’ Matthew 5 v 16**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to a new academic year at St John’s and welcome to Diamond Class – I hope you have all had a lovely summer break and are excited to see what this year brings. We have had a great few days in school - children have enjoyed settling in to new routines and I am enjoying getting to know them all. I am looking forward to working with you.

**If you have any questions or concerns, please do speak to me before or after school or contact the school office to make an appointment. Thank you.**

Mrs Luscombe

**Reading books:**

Reading is so important to your child’s progress in school. Children need to bring their reading books and folder to school EVERYDAY so that they can read in school and their books can be changed. This week, children will start their new RWI groups and will have 2 reading books which will be changed regularly depending on their group. Please can you read regularly with your child and record a comment in the back of their reading record. Thank you.

There will also be links and additional information posted on Seesaw to help your child with their reading.

**Library books:**

Diamond Class library day is **WEDNESDAY**. Children will choose two books from the library which will need to be returned by the following week if they wish to change them. Once they have been returned, children may choose two further books on this day.

**Homework and spellings:**

Children will receive a homework booklet for this half term on Friday. This can either be completed weekly (one sheet per week) or the whole booklet can be completed and handed in whenever suits you. Please can children leave completed homework in their tray for me to mark. Occasionally, work will also be sent home that is related to our foundation subjects.

**P.E.**

Diamond Class PE days are **TUESDAYS** and **WEDNESDAYS.** Children need to have their PE kit in school every day as occasionally PE days will change or sports events will take place.

PE kits need to include a white t-shirt, black shorts and black pumps for indoor PE. Jogging bottoms/leggings and trainers will be needed for outdoor PE. All items need to be clearly labelled with your child’s name. **Long hair needs to be tied back and earrings removed or covered with plasters.**

**Water bottles**

Children can bring in a water bottle each day; they need to contain plain rather than flavoured water. It needs to be in a plastic bottle with their name on it. Please ensure the bottle has a sports cap to avoid spillages.

**Seesaw**

Seesaw allows you to see things that your children are doing in class as well as event reminders. I will be posting photos on Seesaw of your child’s learning over the coming weeks. Updates on school life are also posted on X @StJFailsworth. You can like and comment on posts on Seesaw and X.

**What we are learning this term**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Autumn 1 | Autumn 2 |
| Maths | Place Value 1  Addition and Subtraction 1 | Addition and Subtraction 1 continued  Shape |
| English | Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers | Nibbles the Book Monster by Emma Yarlett |
| Science | Everyday Materials | Animals, including Humans 1 |
| History | What does it take to be a great explorer? |  |
| Geography |  | How does the weather affect our lives? |
| PSHE | Families and Relationships | Health and Wellbeing |
| ART | Make your Mark |  |
| DT |  | Food Technology – Smoothie Making |
| Music | Keeping the pulse (My Favourite Things) | Tempo (Snail and Mouse) |
| Religious education | Who is a Muslim and how do they live? | Why does Christmas matter to Christians? |
| Physical education | Fundamentals  Team Building 1 | Ball Skills 1  Fitness 1 |
| Computing | Technology Around Us | Digital Writing |