**September 2016 Newsletter**

Dear children and parents/carers,

I do hope that you have all had a lovely summer break and are now ready for a busy and exciting year in Base 2.

We have had a great first week together and I am really looking forward to all of the learning that we have planned for Base 2 this year. We are lucky to have Miss Hindmarch in class to support this year, she will be working with all of the children to help support their learning and progress.

Our school day starts at 8:55am and I will be at the door ready to meet you from 8:45am, please do arrive promptly. There will be a morning activity ready and this time is really important for us to talk through the day’s learning and prepare as a class for the day ahead. Please do also use this ‘meet and greet’ time in the morning to pass me any messages, letters or monies rather than sending them directly to the office.

**Teaching and Learning**

We have a whole school theme each term for this new school year and we begin with **'Into the forest'.**

We have a selection of wonderful texts to lead our learning this term, including *We’re going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen, *Stanley’s Stick* by John Hegley, The *Minpins* by Roald Dahl and *Stick Man* by Julia Donaldson. Each of these texts will provide us with different opportunities to develop our writing and comprehension skills, but I am also hoping that you will all find something within these stories that will inspire your learning across the whole curriculum.

Many of the curriculum subjects have been woven together to make our learning more meaningful this term. The holistic Autumn term overview gives a flavour of the work we will be covering.

We are lucky to have a beautiful outside learning environment and so will try to learn outside of the classroom as much as possible. Please do bring a coat to school, even if the morning is bright and sunny as you leave home. We will go outside whatever the weather.

Here is your **weekly timetable** for this term:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| **Session 1** | Literacy  reading/ writing / SPAG/ phonics | Literacy  reading/ writing / SPAG/ phonics | Literacy  reading/ writing / SPAG/ phonics | Literacy  reading/ writing / SPAG/ phonics | Literacy  reading/ writing / SPAG/ phonics  French  Mrs Sharpe |
| **Morning break** | | | | | |
| **Session 2** | Numeracy | Numeracy | Numeracy | Numeracy | Numeracy |
| **Lunch - 1 hr** | | | | | |
| **15 min assemblies** | Assembly PHSE | Assembly  House/Y6 led | Assembly  Singing | Assembly  In the news | RE  Mrs Evans |
| **Session 3** | Learning Journey | PE  Sportscape | Learning Journey | Learning Journey |
| **Session 4** | Learning Journey  Miss Willis | PE | Stars of the week Assembly |

Note: *Learning Journey time will be used to cover the other subjects - Science, geography, history, computing, art, D&T and music.*

**PE:** Please be prepared for PE with a full kit - red tee-shirt, black shorts and trainers. A sweatshirt/joggers in grey/black/ navy for the colder sessions is recommended.

**Regular homework**

* **Daily reading** – please do make time to read together as much as possible. It is really important at this stage for the children read little and often, but also to share books together and talk about the words and what is happening.
* **Spellings** – spelling tests will be on a Thursday during phonics lessons. The new spellings for the week will then be sent home on a Friday.
* **Maths** – I will set a MyMaths **and/or** other maths homework every two weeks on a Monday. These will be short tasks or games to help consolidate our learning.
* **Additional homework** – every half term I will set some additional homework to support our learning in class. This might be a creative, making or finding out task. Often you will have a choice of things to do and might have to pick one or two from the list.

Once we have completed the baseline assessments for the start of this term, regular homework will begin to be sent home. I would be grateful if you could encourage and support your children with these tasks at home, they will all be designed to either consolidate learning we have done in class or in preparation for something we will be doing.

**Parent partnership**

As you all know, good parent partnership is key to your child's success at Wrenbury. I think that communication between parents and teachers is so important for a child’s progress and well-being. Please do let me know of anything that might have happened that you think might have upset or might impact your child at school. It always helps to be informed and I am happy to help in any way that I can. Of course, I also like to hear about all of the lovely things the children have been up to, and I am sure they will keep me up to date when we have anything to celebrate!

I will always be available at the door for a quick chat in the mornings or at home time. Please do not hesitate to catch me then, or we can arrange a mutually convenient time to talk.

**We are planning a Pastoral Meeting for Wednesday 21st September straight after school**. If possible, please do attend this meeting as it is a chance for us to talk through what life is like in Base 2 and answer any questions you might have. I hope to see you there.

Kind regards,

Miss Pitchford and Miss Hindmarch