

Solent Class Welcome Letter

I wanted to start by welcoming everyone into Year 5. I hope everyone had a lovely summer and feels ready to start the new Autumn Term. This letter is just to go over some of the basics of school and classroom life, as well as information on important days and times.

Staff - I (Mrs Reid) will be the key teacher for Year 5. Teaching assistant support every morning will be provided by Mr. McCarty and in the afternoon, it will be Miss. Chiverton. Forest School will be on a Thursday afternoon starting in Autumn 2 and then again in Summer 1 and Summer 2. This will be led by Mr. McCarty. P.E. will be on a Tuesday and led by myself, and on a Wednesday led by Mr Westhorpe. Finally, every other Friday (starting on Friday 12th September) Mrs. Cuff will be teaching the class instead of myself as this will be my allocated PPA time.

Early morning routine – the school gates open at 8.20 and children will be welcomed into class. From here, the children will organise their things and start with some quiet reading time while the register is taken. Registration closes at 8.40.

Fruit – Your child will need to bring a piece of fruit/snack for their morning break time as this is not provided by the school.

Drinks – Each child will need to bring in a named water bottle to drink throughout the day. Water bottles will be easily accessible in the class room.

Lunchboxes – These will be stored neatly in boxes on the side in the classroom.

End of the day routine- The day ends for the children at 3.00pm. After FYT bus children have been collected I will dismiss the rest of the class from the back gate.

Uniform – I ask that you regularly check that all clothing is clearly labelled, especially jumpers and coats, including P.E. kit, and that all children are provided with a hat in hot weather, and a coat when it is cold or wet. It's important to get the children out at playtime every day, even in light rain.

P.E. and Forest School – Our PE lessons will take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. On these days, children should attend school in their P.E. kits. Please could all children be provided with some jogging bottoms in the winter, as P.E. will continue even when the weather has turned colder.

When we have Forest School, children should have wellies and waterproofs, again clearly labelled with their name please.

Reading – Each child will be given a reading record so that any reading done at home can be logged. Even 5 minutes at home each day makes a huge difference. These books will also need to be brought into school for their morning quiet reading and for when they read with an adult. We have a fantastic library here, as well as a mini version in our classroom for children to enjoy and select their books from.

Homework – It is expected that children read at home at least 3 times a week. Children should also access Times Table Rock Stars and practise for at least 25 minutes spread-out over the week. If you need a reminder of your child’s username and password please let me know. There will be weekly spelling tests for sets of words. Finally, a Topic homework will be set during the topic and will have tasks related to the topic included.

All homework carries the same expectations as their school work - neat handwriting and careful presentation. Children should take pride in their work and look forward to showing off their achievements. If you have any questions/concerns about homework, please do let me know.

Class Dojo – This is a really useful way to communicate with each other about important news and events, as well as an easy way for you to contact me with any worries or questions you may have. I will also post photos and videos onto Class Dojo so you can see the work your child is completing in school. I will do my best to respond to messages as soon as I can.

Finally, thank you so much to all the children for such a positive start to the year. I’m really looking forward to the rest of it!

Many thanks, Mrs. Reid.