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★ ★ Stargaze, Spirit, Strive to Sparkle! ★ ★

Autumn Term Curriculum Letter
MEDWAY & TAMAR

Welcome back!

We hope you had a lovely holiday.

We will be encouraging independence every day, so please encourage your child to come in through the gate by themselves, please say goodbye before the gate.

Class Teachers are always happy to speak with you and are generally available after the children have left the classroom in the afternoons until 3.45pm except for Wednesdays.

Start of the Day - Children come straight into the classroom to begin early morning activities as soon as the doors/gates open. We appreciate your continued support in ensuring your child is at school on time, so that they can settle into class with the rest of their friends.

The gates will be closed promptly at 8.43am. Any children arriving after this time will need to enter through the main reception area and will have a late mark recorded.

We will still have our school focus on the children developing their ability to 'Think like a learner' and challenge themselves with our class challenge learning zones.

School Bags - Our cloakrooms are small therefore we are asking that unless your child cycles to school that they do not bring backpacks with them. The children need to bring into school their book bags and a lunch box if they eat a packed lunch daily.

School provides all the resources so there is no need for pencil cases or other bits. Strictly NO TOYS OR MOBILE PHONES must be brought into school.

Snack - school provide fresh fruit as a snack each day, children do not bring in snacks from home.

Healthy Pack Lunch - There is guidance on the school website regarding the contents of a healthy lunch box - sweets and chocolate including chocolate coated biscuits are not allowed and will be sent home with your child at the end of the day. **WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL SO NO FOOD CONTAINING NUTS TO COME INTO SCHOOL.**

Medical Conditions - Please let us know if your child has any medical conditions that we need to be aware of. If your child suffers from asthma, an inhaler should be kept in school, please check it is in date.

Absences from school - It is essential that school is notified by telephone (01823 252126) before 8.45am of illness. If the school is not informed, then enquiries by our attendance worker will be made as to your child's whereabouts.

Water Bottles - the children may bring a **WATER BOTTLE** with water only to drink throughout the day.

Reading - Please support your child's progress with daily home reading. Can you all be vigilant with the reading at home; we have a very small minority who aren't putting ANYTHING in their home reading record books, or reading at home. We can't emphasise how important it is for you to support us in school, by INSPIRING them and URGING them to get the book out and READ! We all have busy lives, we know, but we can't do everything in school; it needs to be a partnership. Your child really benefits from reading at home. The children need to read their books on a regular basis and a comment needs to be written every time they read. Your child will soon bring home their reading book bag. Please support your child's reading and remember to sign the pink Reading Log every time to show that you have heard your child read. Look inside the front cover for support activities and ideas! Book bags are checked regularly and your child will change his/her book independently when it has been completed/ signed by an adult.

English - this term we will be focusing on: fiction texts, non-fiction texts (instructions and recounts) and performance poetry.

Mathematics - this term we will be focusing on: numbers 10 to 100, calculations within 20, addition and subtraction of 2 digit numbers.

Our foundation subjects this term will be: history (Great Fire of London), geography (Somerset), art (collage and painting), DT (structures), music (pulse, rhythm and pitch, and playing in an orchestra), PSHE (relationships, health and wellbeing) and computing (ICT Around Us and Digital Music). If your children have anything relevant to these studies that they would like to share with the class that would be fantastic.

Science - This term we will be focusing on: Use of Everyday Materials

RE studies focus on: 'Which special books/texts are important to Jews and Christians?' and 'What is the impact of Christmas celebrations on the environment, and does it matter?'

PE - For Medway, PE days are Wednesday and Thursday (currently swimming on Thursdays). For Tamar, PE days are Mondays and Thursdays. Your child is asked to come to school wearing their PE kit that day, please see our PE uniform list on the website. **Your child will not be allowed to wear earrings during PE so they will have to remove their stud earrings (the only type of earring acceptable to wear to school).**

Homework is daily reading and practising Story Maps. If you wish to do other activities your child would benefit from you helping them to learn their multiplication tables. To help them learn and practise the spellings expected for each year group, please see your child's class teacher for a list of these.

Thank you.

Miss Salter & Mr White