

## Welcome to the Spring Term 2019

**Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,**

Happy New Year and best wishes to you all. Hope you have had a lovely Christmas and spent some good quality time with your children. We are excited to hear all about how your child spent their Christmas and what special gifts they received.

We have planned some exciting activities to engage the children. To get us started we hope that you will support us and allow your child to bring a Christmas present from home to school for the week. The toy will be used to talk about within the class, to draw and paint pictures, also it will be used to develop their mathematical skills by measuring. We have created a safe place for your child to store their toy and promise to keep it safe and then return it home on Friday.

Here are just a few other reminders:

### Looking after the children's belongings

Please can you re check that all of your child's belongings have their name inside and that your child knows where their name is written. This includes sandshoes and PE kits.

### PE days

The PE kit is a white T-shirt and black shorts and ideally kept in a draw string bag on their cloakroom peg. We ask for draw string bags, rather than bulky rucksacks because this creates more room in the cloakroom. We do expect that your child has their PE kit in school every day, as there are times, when some activities may require your child to wear their kit. We will send their kit home at the end of each half term for washing. It is our school policy for the children to have any jewellery including earrings removed before coming to school on PE days. We also remind you that if children wear earrings, on non PE days, they are only allowed to wear one pair of small studs for safety reasons. The PE days are as follows-

Mrs Leach's Class is on a Wednesday

Miss Daddy's Class is on a Thursday

### Exciting news

First Steps, sports company, are coming into school weekly. Starting this on Thursday morning for 6 weeks to deliver balance bike training for all our reception children. All bikes and safety equipment will be provided. The children will be taught skills in small groups. Keep an eye on twitter for photos.

### Topic

This half term we will be focusing on the book Supertato by Sue Hendra. We will be looking closely at healthy eating, superheroes and their special powers, real heroes and their jobs. Vehicles used to transport heroes around plus following the children interests so who knows where we might end up!

### Reading at home and the reading rocket

As you know, the expectation is that you read with your child 5 times a week.

This is so important so please try to fit it in as part of your week day routine. In school, we have spoken to the children about how to handle books correctly, so could you please encourage this at home too. We also must point out we do record the reading books which the children are taking home. Therefore, please encourage your child to look after their own belongings carefully as any lost books will now need paying for by yourselves, at a cost of £2. Plus, any lost reading word folders will cost £1. One way to minimise losing items would be to train the children to keep their belongings inside their own book bag. Children need their book bag in school every day.

To celebrate your child's reading achievements your child has been made into an astronaut and placed upon their class reading rocket.

Every time a child reads 5 times in a week they will go up on our reading rocket and be rewarded on a Friday with a special treat. Some children have already been to see Mrs Murray for rewards as their reading has improved greatly from the work done at home. We wonder who will fly to the top to get the biggest reward. A big thank you to those parents who are constantly helping their child at home as we do recognise this as it helps so much in ensuring your child becomes to best they can be!

If you need any support with reading at home, please speak to the class teachers who will be happy to help you further.

### **Outdoor Play Area**

Thank you so much for your kind donations for the Christmas Fair. All the money raised will be used in developing our outdoor area. The money from the summer fair has already been used.

What's recently happened?

- A climbing frame now been added to the F2 play area.
- Artificial grass put down in both areas.
- A cosy cabin in F1 which the children love hiding in.
- Small sheds have been installed to promote the children's independence when using our outdoor equipment.

We are very excited about these developments. We are also hoping to raise some funds so that we can develop a mud kitchen in the nursery area. Anybody who would like to offer any help or share their ideas in the development of our outdoor area please speak to Mrs Leach.

### **Notices**

Please check the parents notice board regularly, for updates on key dates plus weekly homework challenges.

Thanks for your support  
The Foundation Stage Two team ☺