

## Welcome to Eagles September 2023



As your child's Class Teacher, I would like to extend a warm welcome to you all. This letter is designed to give you a brief overview of your child's school life over the coming year in terms of our expectations, as well as providing you some insight into the topics we intend to cover. Please come and see me at the end of the day if you ever have any concerns, questions or suggestions or email/phone the office and I'll get back to you.

**Richard Charley**

### General

I will call the register at 8:50am each morning and your child will need to be in the classroom before then to ensure they do not miss any announcements and learning time. We are a 'uniform school' and, as a school, we will be raising expectations in standards this year. All children should wear school uniform (navy jumper/cardigan, grey skirt/pinafore/trousers/shorts, white polo shirt, plain grey/white/black socks, sensible and smart black shoes.) Nail varnish should be removed before school. Please see our website under the 'Parents' tab (school information) for more information about uniform.

### English

**English is taught for at least one hour a day** but there will also be additional sessions focusing on spelling, grammar, reading comprehension and handwriting. The children will explore a wide range of text types to link their writing to during the year and their reading and writing skills will be developed and extended. We teach English through an approach where children work towards a shared goal but with different starting points depending on their understanding. This helps us ensure time is not wasted by repeating aspects that children already know how to do. The children will be expected to write independently, editing and improving their writing as part of the process.

It is beyond doubt that the most beneficial way of helping your child make progress is to regularly support their reading at home, both hearing them read and being read to. We would really appreciate your support with this. If your child is reluctant to read at home or if you want support, please come and see us. **The children are expected to read at least five times a week at home** (with or without an adult) as part of their home learning.

**Spellings** for each week are introduced on a Monday. These will be explored during the week with taught spelling sessions. A list of these spellings be included in the weekly home learning set on Teams each Thursday. In addition to written work in English, we have adopted an Oracy focus across the curriculum to broaden the vocabulary and language skills of all learners.

### Maths

**Maths is also taught daily.** Our aim is to ensure that the children are confident handling numbers and completing calculations and that they progress only when their understanding is completely secure. If the formal strategies they are using are unfamiliar, or you would like strategies clarified, please don't hesitate to see me.

In maths, we use a range of resources, including White Rose and Maths No Problem, with the children developing their skills through a mixture of activities, including formal written lessons, investigations, practical activities, and games. Every week they will also complete times tables practice, details of which will be part of weekly home learning. They have a login for Times Tables Rockstars as one approach to support their progress.

### Topic Work

In our non-core curriculum this year, we will be looking at:

- **Vicious Vikings**
- **You Are What You Eat**
- **Terrible Tudors**

Each half term of the topic will have either a Geography or History focus. Children will explore an enquiry question linked to their topic to help them build and develop their knowledge.

### P.E. & Kit

**PE will be held on Wednesday and Thursday** and this term will focus on basketball. Children need to wear navy/blacks shorts and a school PE t-shirt or plain red t-shirt and trainers or plimsols. For outdoor games, children may wear a tracksuit instead in cold weather. Children should arrive at school wearing their PE kit on their designated PE days. All kit should be clearly named. Please note, no jewellery may be worn during P.E. sessions. We have a duty to provide physical education to our children and you will be contacted by the school if your child regularly does not have their kit.

### Home Learning

**Home Learning is set on Teams on a Thursday and is due in by the following Thursday morning.** This will not be set during school holidays. There will be weekly maths and English tasks (and sometimes topic) which will consolidate the learning we have been doing in school. Each task should take no more than 30 minutes. Spellings and times tables will be tested on Fridays. The children can contact me via our class Teams page or ask me if they have any questions regarding their home learning.

### Media

We now have a high media profile through the local press, our website, Facebook and Instagram. If you do not wish for your child's photo to be published, please let us know through the 'Media Permission' form that the office will send out.

### Clubs

Throughout the year the children will be able to participate in a range of lunchtime clubs. Further details will be sent out on the newsletter.

### Collective Worship

We hold Collective Worship every day and use the time to explore our school values. Our Friday Collective Worship focuses on celebrating achievements and children are welcome to bring in awards they have gained outside school to share with everyone. Please also email the office and let us know if your child has demonstrated the current school value at home.

### Information

A link to our weekly newsletters is sent home by email and contains important, up to date information, as well as photos of what the children have been learning that week. **Please make sure you check it weekly.** If you need to contact a teacher directly, please email the admin address and your message will be forwarded to the relevant teacher. We are striving to reduce our "paper footprint" and moving towards sending all information electronically. If you do need a paper copy of any specific letters, please drop into the office and they will be happy to print one for you.

**There are two formal parents' evenings during the year parents' evenings during the year.** The first ones will be held in the week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> October; more details will follow nearer the time. We have an exciting year ahead and I am really looking forward to sharing it with your children and yourselves.