



Friday 7th January 2022

Dear Parents/carers,

Happy New Year to you all! We hope you have had a fantastic Christmas break. We are delighted to welcome the children back and begin another exciting term of learning.

This letter will give you a brief overview of some of the key information for this term, including the trips and events that are coming up.

Start of the Day

We encourage the children to be responsible for their own belongings and organisation and greatly appreciate your support with this. If you need to pass on important messages to your teacher, please see us in the morning or after school. Alternatively, you can call the office and we will get in contact with you as soon as possible, or speak to a senior teacher on the school gate.

PE Days

Children will continue to **come to school** in full PE kit on their PE days. Thank you for your efforts with this - very few children have forgotten their kits so far!

Please make sure to dress appropriately for the weather, wearing joggers and a jumper where needed. A light waterproof coat may also be a good idea on some days, as we will be keen to get outside.

EFI – Monday and Wednesday

LLO – Monday and Tuesday

SAB – Tuesday and Thursday

DSM – Tuesday and Thursday

Forest School

Please send your child into school with waterproofs (or old clothes) and wellies in a named bag for them to change into on Forest School days.

EFI – No Forest School this term

LLO – Wednesday

SAB – No Forest School this term

DSM - Thursday

Enquiry and Trips

This term our main learning enquiry is driven by the question, 'What was life like for Victorians?' This is a history based enquiry in which the children will learn about the Victorian era. We will explore what history is and encourage the children to be curious about the past and to ask questions. We will think about how lives change throughout history and use primary and secondary sources of evidence to compare the lives of Victorians with the lives they live now. As part of this learning we will be re-enacting a typical Victorian school day and meeting Queen Victoria herself!

We are hoping to arrange a visit to Coldharbour Mill in Cullompton, one of the oldest woollen mills in the UK, to 'bring to life' the heart of the industrial revolution and experience for ourselves the realities of factory life for child workers in the 19th century. It is *estimated* that the cost will be around £15 per child. We will send further details out about this nearer the time.

Library Books

Thank you for your support with keeping the library and classroom books safe and well cared for. The children love their visits to the library and take a real pleasure in choosing their next book!

Home Learning

Reading

Autumn was a wonderful term of reading with children really starting to develop a love of books and stories. Please continue to harness this by reading with/to your child on a daily basis and letting us know how they are getting on by making a note in their reading diary. It is expected that children read out loud **every day**. This is essential as it develops their accuracy and confidence in reading aloud. It is also a fabulous chance to question them on what they have read - a key skill for reading! Please look out for tricky words, which will arrive in your child's book bag on a regular basis and practise reading them daily.

Year 1 will continue to use Tapestry to set home learning tasks and to communicate and share information with you, including some of the learning that has taken place that week. Year 2 will continue to use Google Classroom. This homework will also be available as a paper copy for those children who do not have access to a device or Google Classroom at home. Home learning will be set on a Friday, with an expectation that it is completed by the following Wednesday.

We look forward to a new year and thank you in advance for all of your support. As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Year 1 and 2 Team

Miss Fitzgerald, Miss Loman, Mr Smallwood and Mr Abell