

Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome to Hurricane Class, whether you are a returning or new parent! It has been wonderful to see the children back in school after the summer holidays. They have all settled well into our new classroom and new routines. Hurricane Class is taught by Mr. Collicutt, with Mrs. Benn and Mrs. Thrippleton sharing the role of class teaching assistant. Mrs. Rushworth will teach the class Computing and PE on Friday afternoons.

Learning:

We have hit the ground running with our learning in Hurricanes this week! For the first couple of weeks, each class will be working on a variation of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Hurricane's version is 'Jack and the Jelly Bean Stalk! We have been busy story-mapping the text, as well as retelling and creating our own versions of the classic tale. This term will see a focus on place value for both year groups in maths, moving onto addition and subtraction later in the term. For the rest of the term, our topic is 'The Ancient Egyptians' where we will be learning all about who the Ancient Egyptians were, what life was like for them, and of course all about mummies, pharaohs and hieroglyphics! We have an Egyptian day coming up soon, which we are all looking forward to! In science, we will be focusing on living things and their habitats, whilst in art we will discover all about still life art, studying and sketching our own brilliant pieces!

PE and swimming:

PE is on a **Friday afternoon**. Please remember that children should come in to school in their school uniform and leave their PE kit in school ready for PE days. **In a change to last year, Hurricane Class will be swimming this year in the Spring Term (January).**

Reading:

Reading books will be sent home in line with the children's AR levels. Hearing your child read aloud at home really enhances their reading progress. Just a few minutes each night can really make a difference. If you find hearing them read at home difficult, please do not hesitate to contact us. The children's understanding of books they read is extremely important. Please spend some of the reading time with your child discussing the story. Ask them to tell you what has happened, who the characters are, where the story takes place, what they think will happen, what their favourite part in the story is and why. The expectation is that children will have read at least 3 times to an adult at home and that this is recorded in their reading record. Reading books and records will be checked weekly.

Homework & Spellings:

Spelling books will be sent home on Mondays with that week's spellings stuck in for the children to practice at home. There are many fun ways to learn spellings, including drawing them in large bubble letters, turning each spelling into an acrostic poem, or creating a short story which includes that week's spellings! Homework will be set in a few weeks with a selection of optional tasks and challenges for the children to complete as and when possible.

Uniform

Please ensure that all clothes (particularly jumpers and cardigans!) are clearly labelled with your child's name. This will make it easier to locate any items that inevitably 'disappear' over the year!

Finally, please let us know if you have any questions or concerns about your child and their learning. Please get in contact with the office who will forward any messages to me or catch me at the end of the day. We look forward to an exciting year in Hurricanes!

Best wishes, Mr. Collicutt, Mrs. Benn, and Mrs. Thrippleton.