

Monday 14th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back Drinnick Class – Year 5!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all back and hope that the children have enjoyed their first full week back in school. Hopefully you are signed up to Class Dojo and have seen photos of the classroom as well as our weekly update and reminders.

Drinnick Teaching Staff

On Mondays to Fridays, the majority of lessons will be taught by Mrs Jago. On Monday afternoons, Mrs Miskowicz will lead the class. Mrs Varney is our class Teaching Assistant each day and greets the children in the classroom during our arrival registration period (from 09:05 to 09:15). We are also very lucky to receive support from Mrs Wade and Mrs Cocks during some of our morning sessions.

Class Dojo

This year, we will be continuing to use Class Dojo to provide a vital link between school and home. There will be a weekly post, every Monday. It may contain reminders, class specific important messages or just a snapshot sharing some of our learning for the week. The Monday post will also always contain our Word of the Week from our Reading Comprehension lessons. Please check that your account from last year is still active and download the free app to keep up to date with class messages. Please note that Tapestry (Online Learning Journal) is currently only used in our Reception (Eden) and Year 1 (Hendra) classes, not in our class.



Curriculum:

For the whole of the Autumn Term, we will be working on a 'recovery curriculum'. This will focus on supporting children's mental and physical wellbeing on returning to school as well as starting to fill gaps in the curriculum from the Summer Term of the last academic year. Please refer to the curriculum overview sheet for more details about what we will be covering.

PE

Our class will have PE with Mr Bacon on Monday and Thursday afternoons. On these days, children can wear their PE kit to school for the day. This will save having to bring in more items to school from home.

- Shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms - black
- Plain white T-shirt (no large print or design please)
- Trainers or plimsolls
- Socks
- Tracksuits may be worn for outside PE during colder weather
- No earrings or jewellery to be worn for PE.

Outdoor Learning

Drinnick class will take our learning outside during some of our afternoon sessions. We will be using a variety of



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outdoor spaces on the school site to support our learning in all areas of the curriculum. On Fridays, please make sure that your child has their coat in school as well as a change of suitable footwear. This change of footwear is likely to get wet and and/or muddy and therefore wellies would be the most suitable option. Please make sure they are labelled with your child's name.

Reading:

In school, your child will have guided reading activities. At home, it is expected that children engage in reading activities at least 5 times per week. Reading records will be checked on a Monday. Please make sure that your child has their record in school because this is the only day that they will be checked for points towards the reading reward scheme. There will be opportunities to change reading books during the week and don't forget that you are now able to quiz at home too. Please remember to note down the quiz result in your child's reading record, so that we can add these when the weekly count is done. As well as a reading book, all children also have a library book which they can read for pleasure and record for counts in their reading records too.

Homework:

In light of the current situation, we are trying to minimise the amount of items going to and from school. Therefore, in addition to reading five times a week, only Spelling and Maths Shed will be used for children to continue their learning at home. We will provide an exercise book that contains the spellings for our entire half term, but once this book has been sent home, it will not need to be returned to school. Mrs Jago will post reminders on Class Dojo to keep you updated on which list of words the children should be practising at home.

Age-Appropriate Gaming and Screen Time:

Many children spend a large amount of time using electronic devices and accessing computer games that are not age appropriate. As a proud Healthy Schools Award holder, we would like to remind parents and carers that children are advised to spend no more than 2 hours a day in front of a screen (TV/PC/Laptop/Tablet/Smart Phone etc...).

Open Door Policy:

We welcome your feedback on any aspect of your child's time in Drinnick class. Please keep in touch with us to discuss any questions, queries or problems that you may have. The morning is a very busy time for everyone and we appreciate the drop off and collection timeframes are very short now. Please utilise messaging on Class Dojo, if this is more comfortable or convenient. Mrs Jago will monitor her Class Dojo messages, however, urgent matters that need addressing should be conveyed to the member of staff on the door. Alternatively, you can telephone the office, who will contact us in the classroom as soon as possible. Please remember that all absences need to be reported to the office.

We are very much looking forward to the term ahead and thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Jago, Mrs Varney, Mrs Miskowicz, Mrs Wade and Mrs Cocks
Drinnick team (Year 5)

