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13th January 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer

Welcome back

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a restful Christmas Break. We have already had a very busy start to the new term and have lots of things to look forward to this term, including a visit from the Explorer Dome for KS1 and a National Grid workshop, for year 4.

Value of the Term

This term our value is Respect. This is also one of the drivers of our curriculum. We will be exploring and encouraging the children to think carefully about how they show respect for others in school, the community and in the wider world. Children will explore ways in which they can respect the world that God has created and will be encouraged to value and respect their own and others belongings.

Mobile phones

For some of the older children that walk to and from school, I know it is important for parents to be able to reach them before the start and at the end of each day. If your child needs to have their mobile phone for these reasons, they must hand their phone into the office at the beginning of the day, or to me, when I am on the gate. This is for safeguarding reasons. Children will then have their phones returned to them at the end of each day.

May Bank Holiday - further reminder

The website does state the change in the date of this Bank Holiday but it is not yet showing on the term dates document. Please note that the May bank holiday is Friday 8th May not Monday 4th May

Open Afternoon

We would like to invite you into school on Thursday 23rd January at 2.50pm, to look at your child's books and discuss their learning with them. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to discuss your child's learning with the class teacher on that day, as their responsibility lies with the teaching and learning of the whole class. We hope you can make it. The playground will be opened just before this time and classrooms will be accessed from the playground.

Living and Learning Together With God's Help

Lent Lunches

In previous years, children in Year 5 have joined those serving soup in the Methodist Church Hall, once a week during Lent, taking a small donation with them.

This donation is for Christian Aid. We would like to continue with this and a letter with further information, will follow, for children in Year 5.

Holidays for Academic Year 2020/2021

These are not yet on the website but we will be following the Swindon Borough Term Dates, which are available on their website. Dates for TD Days have not yet been decided for that academic year.

5 Top Tips to share regarding Online Safety

- Prioritise safety online - Teach children not to give out personal information, like their name, address, telephone number, or which school they go to.
- Set Parental Controls - Agree a list of websites your child is allowed to visit, and remember to check the minimum age limit on services like Facebook and YouTube.
- Discuss their activity - Take an interest in their online world. Talk to them about their favourite websites, videos, and their online friends.
- Set boundaries - Establish time limits for activities such as using the internet and games consoles. Make sure to set aside time for "unplugged" family activity.

Snow Procedures

Just in case of snow! - We will endeavor to send a message via Parent Mail (rather than on the Website) as soon as we know if we have enough staff to open the school. We will also report any closures to local radio - as another method of communication

Donation of Books and magazines

We are working on improving the lunchtimes for the children. We have established a 'Quiet Zone'; an area where children may choose to spend some of their lunchtimes. We are providing activities for these areas and one of these is reading magazines and comics. We would be grateful of any donations of age appropriate magazines and comics, to build on this resource.

Tempest Photography

Thank you for placing your photograph orders online with Tempest .The school has received £380.00 in commission which we will be spending on Maths resources for the children.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Warburton