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January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you have all had a merry Christmas full of excitement and fun. We are all looking forward to the term ahead and this letter will outline some of the learning opportunities your child will have this term and a reminder of the routines in place to help everyone settle back into school after a busy holiday.

It is great that all of the children are now reading and enjoying books. We will continue to change these three times a week and would therefore like reading books in everyday, as your child will read on different days each week. You are all great at hearing your child read, so thank you for your support as this really makes a huge difference to your child's imagination and experience of the whole curriculum.

If you do have a spare afternoon and would like to come in and hear the children read, we would really appreciate it. The children love to read to an adult and the extra practise is always beneficial. Please speak to us to arrange a time that suits you.

The weekly update, with spellings for Y1, will still be stuck into the reading diary, so you know what fun your child has had during the week! The year 1 children will be tested on their spellings the following Friday. They are doing really well with this and look forward to their test each week!

With the weather fluctuating, the children often take their jumpers and cardigans off inside the classroom. Can we remind you that all school uniform items, including PE kits need to be named clearly. The children can identify a jumper's owner by smell; unfortunately the adults in the room do not have this skill!

At break time, fruit will continue to be provided as a healthy snack and the children may purchase toast for 10p. The children are great at drinking water throughout the day so thank you for supporting this by sending in a bottle.

We have a class giraffe called Tilly (after Otile the giraffe we adopted before Christmas). She will be coming home every Friday with one lucky child for the weekend! She will have her own diary which we would love your child to fill out and if you want to add some picture or photos, that would be great! Send her back on the Monday and the whole class will be able to learn about her weekend adventure!

Our 'wow' wall is looking great and we will send home more wow sheets for you to fill in and send back, so we can celebrate outside achievements with the whole class. You can send in as many as you like and if you need more sheets, please just ask.

This term, our Learning Challenge Curriculum will start off with the question 'Where would you rather live, Britain or Australia?' We have started the topic already by looking at what Australians are proud of and have also compared the climates. It is quite a topical subject at the moment and the children have shown a real interest and concern for the bush fire situation at this time.

Topic questions for the rest of this term:

Spring 1: Science -Why are humans not like lions?

Spring 2: History- Why did Nelson Mandela make the world a better place?

Across the term the children will also have ICT, Music, Art, PHSE, R.E, P.E and Design Technology lessons. Please see the curriculum overview to find out what we will be doing in more detail.

To help put your child's learning into context, we will have another class trip this term. Unfortunately it is not a scuba diving holiday to the Great Barrier Reef but it will be an exciting and informative day for your child! Details will be confirmed later in the term.

As always, if there is anything you would like to speak to us about, please remember we have an open door policy and are able to discuss any queries as soon as they arise.

We look forward to another fun packed term and thank you for your support!

Yours Faithfully,

Miss Rose Lee and Mrs Laura Berry