

Information for Parents
Hedgehog Class 2020/21

Dear Parents/Carers,

First of all, let us say a huge welcome to Year 2. It is such a shame we are unable to meet in person just yet, but hopefully you will find the information in this document useful in answering any questions you have about the year ahead.

TEACHERS AND TAs

Class Teacher: Mrs Williams

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Phillips (Monday- Friday) Mrs Tingey (Monday - Wednesday) Mrs Wagstaff (Thursday-Friday)

PPA cover: Mrs Hockney (Tuesday afternoon)

CONTACT BOOKS

For the time being we are not using contact books. Instead, please use the class email address if you have any messages, such as dentist or doctor appointments or changes to who is picking up your child. We are only using the email address within working hours and will check them at the start and end of the day. If there are any changes or messages that need to reach us during the school day, it is best to contact the school office, who will be able to pass the message along to us in the classroom.

READING

The children are able to take a colour band book home and there is a quarantine box in the classroom to return them safely! We would like the children to read at home daily, and encourage them to choose a range of books to ensure they become familiar with different styles within their colour band. We also allow children to choose a book that is a colour above theirs. When reading with your child, please make sure you make a record of it in their reading record.

We will be assessing children as soon as possible over the next couple of weeks, as we know they have not been assessed for quite some time! We need to do this with all 30 children, so please bear with us. Following this, children will be assessed throughout the year, as and when we feel they are ready to move on. Please note that we are not rushing children through the book bands, as it is important they experience breadth at each stage. When children are confident reading with some fluency, we still need to ensure they can define the words they are reading and discuss what they have read to demonstrate secure understanding.

Your child will be read with at least once a week, often through group reading sessions, then additionally 1:1 with an adult where possible. As the reading records are continually moving from home to school, we will be asking the children to write the date themselves and using a stamp to show they have been read with, instead of putting in hand written comments. On occasion we will stick in labels with feedback.

PE

We will have two PE lessons each week – Wednesday and Thursday afternoon. Your child needs a white t-shirt, green shorts and plimsolls, all of which need to be named. Please also make sure that your child's PE bag is labelled with their name on the outside. If you would like to provide your child with a named tracksuit or jogging bottoms when the weather gets colder please put these in their PE bag. If your child wears earrings they **must** be able to remove them themselves as it is unsafe for them to wear them during PE sessions. We will be sending PE kits home every Friday, to be washed, and returned to school the following Monday. Please make sure they come back in the next week, before our PE lesson on Wednesday.

LIBRARY

Our session should be on a Tuesday but unfortunately, we are unable to use the library at this time. When we are hopefully able to begin going again, the children will only be able to take a new book when they return the previous one. If you misplace a book please inform us as soon as possible.

FOREST SCHOOL

After the half term, we will be running Forest school sessions for all the children in Year 2. Similarly, to when they were in Year 1, it will be one afternoon or morning a week and the details of when and what your child needs to wear will be made clear to you in a letter nearer the time. In addition to Forest School, we aim to get the children outside for their learning wherever possible. With this in mind, please can your child have a clearly named pair of wellie boots that can be left at school throughout each term.

We hope this document has been helpful. If there is anything you would like to ask, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Best Wishes.

The Hedgehog Class Team

Contact email: hedgehogclass@st-james.kent.sch.uk