

Dragonfly Class



Autumn Term 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parents

Mrs. Kirby and I would like to welcome everyone back for an exciting autumn term! As ever, throughout the term, there will be a focus on what makes a great learner: looking at how we can build the resilience, independence and curiosity to achieve great things this year.

All of the children will have a diary this year (which they will need to take home and bring in each day) in which they will be noting important term dates such as when parent evenings are, special assemblies, when clubs start, etc. Their diary will also be a means of communication between us. I will be setting up a new Class Dojo page soon too and sending out 'Family Connections' invitations, so that you can see how many dojos your child has received and what they have received them for – this is also another means for you to communicate with me as well as by email: dwhillier@northchapelprimary.co.uk. Please also feel free to catch me at the school gate if you need a quick chat.

Every child is expected to have a reading book in class. We will be keeping a record of who is reading what and every time they finish a book, the children will complete a brief book review. We will also be listening to readers at least once a week and I would encourage you to read regularly with your child at home as well, please. Regular reading at home is very important with at least 20 minutes per day recommended.

Maths homework will be set every week and the children will be expected to hand it in on time on the assigned day (noted in their diary), as will spellings – we will be having weekly spellings tests. It is also essential that every child has a good grasp on their times tables. The maths curriculum from here on in demands a strong knowledge of times tables as they are an integral part of topics such as fractions, division, percentages etc. We will endeavour to have some times tables lessons in class, but it is the children's responsibility to practice them at home regularly too!

Year 6 will start SATs Grammar and Maths practice books for homework soon after half-term.

PE with South Coast Sports is now on a Thursday afternoon, so children will need to wear PE kit to school on this day. Swimming will be on the following Tuesdays: 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th September. Forest School **for everyone** will be on the following Fridays: 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th September and 6th and 13th October.

As always, a pair of wellington boots should be kept in school ready for wet days.

I hope everybody has a fantastic term. Let me know if there is anything you would like to discuss or if you have any concerns. We always like to have feedback about how the children are finding the work and life at school.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Whillier