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Headteacher: Ms Alison Marsh

January 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and a lovely relaxing break. We would like to thank you all for your kind messages, cards and gifts at the end of term.

Learning This Term

This term our topic is called 'Around the World' and will begin with us focusing on the story 'Whatever next!' The children will be talking about where they live and sharing experiences of places they have travelled to. This will lead us to focus on transport and the different modes we use to travel to places. Here we will create our own transport using junk modelling resources. We will end this term by beginning to learn about China with a particular focus on the Chinese New Year celebrations. This learning will continue after half term with a focus on Italy and Africa as well. A copy of the topic web is included with this letter.

Late Children

Last term we noticed many children were arriving late for school which has a huge impact on their start of day. When children are late for school, they need to join the class without time to settle with their parents. They can also arrive after the register has been taken and once phonics has already started. Each morning we begin our day with phonics and found that some children would miss this vital session each day due to being late. Please can we urge you to bring your child to school before 8.50am so they can start the day ready to learn and participate in all activities.

Reminders

PE

The children take part in a PE session every Friday. For this they will need a PE kit consisting of a t-shirt, black shorts and jogging bottoms. Please could we encourage you to leave your child's PE kit in school for the term so they always have their kit. A reminder that for safety reasons long hair should be tied back and jewellery should not be worn in school.

Lost Property

At the end of last term, our lost property box had grown and items were not collected. Please can we urge you to name **ALL** clothing (school uniform, PE kit, forest school kit) so that we can return any lost items to you. Please can we ask you to refrain from bringing in toys and children become upset when they are lost.

Forest School

Forest school continues this term. Please can we remind you that your child will need to come dressed in their Forest School kit on their day to ensure they are able to spend the maximum time taking part in their activities. An overview of the dates is included with this letter.

Reading Books

In each class there is a box where the reading books and diaries can be placed. We aim to change the books every Monday but will read with children throughout the week. Therefore, please can children bring their reading books and diaries in each day and place these in the box in the classes.

Mystery Reader

We will continue with our mystery reader this term. Thank you to all those who have come into school to share a story or two with the children. You have all been fantastic. The new sign-up sheet is in the cloakroom so please do sign up. As our topic is 'Around the World', we would love you to share stories in your home language as this would be a fantastic opportunity for the children.

Take the Toys Home

The children have loved taking the toys home on a Friday and this will continue this term.

Junk Modelling

The children love our junk modelling areas but we need your help to keep it stocked up! Please bring in any packaging, kitchen rolls, clean yogurt pots etc.

Classlist

Please can we urge you to join Classlist so you are kept informed about what is happening in school. Go to www.classlist.com to register.

Diary Dates

- **Tuesday 9th and Thursday 11th January** – Forest school begins
- **Friday 26th January** – International food day. More information will follow but we would love to have parents come into school to share food with the children
- **Wednesday 31st January** – Reception Eye test
- **Wednesday 7th February** – Pancake day races
- **Friday 9th February** – Reception cake sale
- **Monday 12th – Friday 16th February** – Half term holiday
- **Thursday 1st March** – World Book Day
- **Thursday 8th March** – Reception heights and weights check
- **Week beginning 26th March** – Parent meetings
- **Thursday 29th March** – Last day of term

We hope you find the information above informative and helpful. Please check the parents' noticeboard and the school website for additional information.

Thank you for your continuing support.

The Reception Team

Laura Jones, Holly Hallin, Anna Hallmark, Kate Welsh and Tracy Au