

Dear Sapphire families,

What a wonderful start to the year we have had so far! I am so impressed with the enthusiasm and positive attitude the children have returned to school with, our classroom has been a wonderful environment to be in: kind, supportive, exciting, engaging and happy.

Here are some of the key information you may find useful as we continue to settle in to our new class routine:

- **Reading books.** Last week we assessed each child's reading level and provided them with a reading book that is suited to their reading ability. They were also given an opportunity to choose a reading for pleasure book. Both books should return to school each day to be used in class. Please encourage your child to read for 15 minutes each evening at home and record this on Boomreader using the same login details you have used previously. If you need a new copy of this login information please let me know. We will begin counting reads towards Reading Karate bands beginning 11/9/2023.
Once your child has completed their reading or reading for pleasure book they may return it to school. A record is being kept of all reading books that have been sent home, once a book is returned to me your child will be able to choose another.
- **Homework** will be sent home on Monday each week. This should be completed in addition to daily reading, spelling practice and TTRS and returned to school the following Monday. For example – the homework received today should be returned to school by the 18th January.
- **Spelling tests** will take place on Friday mornings. Spelling patterns are taught in class and practised daily, please support your child in learning their spellings at home. You will find your child's spellings assigned to them on Spelling Shed each week. Please contact me if you need these login details again.
- For this half term
- **PE** will take place on Thursday each week, please send your child to school in their PE kit on this day. This half term the children will be focussing on team building skills and learning to play netball.
- **Beach walk trip** – On Friday 22nd September we will be walking to Portreath Beach. On Friday, you will have received a letter outlining the essential information for this trip. Please sign and return this letter to the office as soon as possible.
- Additional information about our topic and learning will be sent home on Friday.

This week we will be completing some baseline assessments, these papers will help me develop a clear image of Sapphire class's strengths and targets for the term and ensure each child feels supported and challenged by our lessons. These assessments will be scattered across the week amidst 'normal' lessons.

This week we will begin to explore what life was like for the ancient Maya civilisation, start our maths unit on place value, compare life cycles of different animal classes, draw inspiration from Jose Guadalupe Pasada's printmaking in art, rock out in music as we begin to learn Livin' on a Prayer by Bon Jovi and continue to develop our understanding of the concept of enlightenment in RE.

I hope you're as excited as I am to see what this term will bring.

Best wishes,
Miss Clark