

Dear Sapphire families,

I hope you are all well, it was so lovely to see many of you at our school open afternoon on Wednesday- to celebrate your wonderful children and to get to know some of you a little better. We had a wonderful turn out and I am sure you will all agree, all of your children have been working very hard since the start of term, they are already showing excellent progress.

As of 2nd October, you will be able to book your parent partnership meeting slot with me via the school website/app. Parent partnership meetings will take place on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th October this year. I am so looking forward to sharing your children's achievements, how they have settled and their targets for the rest of the year.

PE will take place on Monday and Thursday this week, please ensure your child is wearing their full PE kit. Each week, there have been a handful of children wearing school uniform or incomplete PE kits. We have allowed these children to take part in the session, however, if the floor is wet and your child is not wearing appropriate footwear it is not safe. Children should **come to school** wearing trainers, a white t-shirt/polo top and black/navy plain leggings or joggers, as we are currently playing hockey knee high socks and/or shin pads are advised. Skirts, dresses, tights, school shoes and school uniform are not appropriate for PE lessons.

Juice – It has been noted that a number of children are bringing squash in their water bottle in to class. Please encourage your child to bring water in their bottle to school. This is to avoid sticky spillages in the classroom and is in line with our school's healthy living and well-being - encouraging children to drink water and understand the benefits. Children may have a juice drink with their lunch and will be encouraged to drink water at all other times in the day to remain hydrated.

Thank you for your continued support, ensuring all children are able to access their entitlement safely and with confidence in line with school guidelines and expectations.

A number of KS2 families have requested advice on how to support their child at home with phonics and reading fluency. Please find attached two useful documents that will support you in this and some tips and tricks listed below.

Listening to your child read at home.

What you can do to help.

1. Listen to them read their reading book daily. Repeated reading will build fluency.
2. When tackling an unknown word, remind them to look for 'special friends', 'Fred talk or sound out' and then read the word as a whole. These are the strategies they use in RWI.
3. Discuss the story and encourage their storyteller's voice.

There are free video tutorials on the website – www.ruthmiskin.com

Select free resources and then the Parents section. There is a useful video which shows how to pronounce each of the sounds.

Best wishes,

Miss Clark