

January 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school, we hope you had a wonderful holiday with your families.

Our topic this half-term is '**Tell Me a Story**' – we will be encouraging lots of imaginative storytelling.

We'll be reading books using 'The Power of Reading'. This is a project which captures the children's love and enjoyment of reading through a specially selected set of books. Please see the Curriculum letter for areas of learning to be covered this half term.

### **Reading**

Every child will bring a reading book home at least once a week. Please read these with your child and write comments in their Reading Record. Children should have a book bag to carry their books and work to and from school. These are available from the school office. Please bring the book bag, books and Reading Record to school every day. Please do not put water/drink bottles into book bags as they tend to leak and spoil the books.

### **Swimming**

We have noticed there are several children not bringing their swimming kits every week. The children generally really enjoy the swimming lessons and it is a great opportunity that not all schools have – we are extremely lucky to have a pool at our school. The swimming pool is heated and there are two changing rooms for the children to get dressed in. Please encourage your child to dry and change themselves as often as possible at home; especially after a bath. Children will be expected to be independently drying and dressing themselves at school. If your child is unable to participate in swimming lessons, please ensure that they bring a note of explanation with them.

### **PE**

Children have PE or swimming on alternate weeks. Please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing for PE: This includes shorts/jogging bottoms, a t-shirt and plimsolls.

We will continue to use the systems in their classes- understanding how the day is organised, teaching them how to find and put away equipment and activities independently, encouraging them to speak to new adults and children, and helping them to play games which promote sharing, cooperating and turn taking.

May we remind you that the school day starts at 8:55 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. Children should also bring a water bottle to school with their name on it. All items of clothing **must be labelled** with their name, especially school uniforms. We would like each child to have a bag with a 'change of clothes' in case of accidents – these clothes **must also be labelled**.

Also, should your child be absent from school, please telephone the office on 0208 800 4553. On their return to school, they are required to bring a note of explanation to authorise their absence; this should be given to the office.

### **Packed Lunches**

May we remind you that we are a nut-free school and therefore, food containing nuts should not be provided in packed lunches. We also have children with a severe allergy to eggs and would request that children do not bring eggs to school especially egg sandwiches, tortilla, etc. We are also encouraging healthy eating so if your child has a packed lunch, please do not include sweets, chocolate or fizzy drinks.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to come and see us and have quick word or make an appointment to speak with us at a mutually convenient time.

Yours faithfully,

### **The Reception Team**

(Miss McKay, Miss Bateman, Miss Samworth and Miss Dennis)