

***Jesus promised, "I came that you may have life and have it to the full."  
John 10:10***



*Every child at Fladbury will know they are loved by God, have a **happy heart** and be part of a flourishing, well-led school. When they leave Fladbury, they will be well-prepared to meet challenges, confident in their abilities and look forward to their **bright futures** with an **open mind**.*

## **AUTUMN TERM 2023-2024** **INFORMATION FOR PARENTS – Elm Class Year 1/2**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to a brand new year at Fladbury! We hope you have all had a happy and relaxing summer. The children have returned to school excited and eager to learn, and we are really looking forward to what the year has in store.

We will recommence our phonics sessions next week, and children will bring home their phonics reading books the week after, along with their book bag book. Regular reading at home makes such a difference to children's progress, so it would be brilliant if you could hear your child read every day, or as much as possible. Little and often is best – it's more beneficial to do 10 minutes several times a week, rather than fewer, longer sessions. Reading to your child is just as important, and really helps to develop their vocabulary as well as having lots of mental wellbeing benefits.

Our English work this half term will centre on the books "Somebody Swallowed Stanley" and "Stella and the Seagull". To begin with, we will be ensuring that the children have a solid understanding of punctuation and using their phonics to spell in order to write accurate full sentences. We will then be writing stories, letters, posters, and exploring poetry. We will also be teaching the children to proofread and edit their own work.

We have kicked off our Maths work by looking at time, which will run consistently throughout the year. The children will take it in turns to be 'timekeepers', wearing our class watch and making sure we stay punctual throughout the morning! During the first half term, we will be covering our unit on place value. Year 1 children will focus on numbers up to 20 and Year 2 will focus on numbers up to 100.

We are going to journey around the world during our Geography unit this half term. We will be using maps and globes to name and locate continents and oceans. Each week, we will visit a different continent and study the climate, geographical features and some local culture.

Our first Science focus will be habitats and animal adaptations. We will be using our outdoor learning area for much of our Science work this year, giving the children great hands-on opportunities and experiences to deepen their scientific thinking and investigation. Children will need to come to school in their forest school kit on Thursdays: long sleeved tops and full length trousers, extra layers as the weather gets colder, and a set of wellies and waterproofs that can stay in school.

A few handy reminders for the beginning of the year:

We will be reading with the children 1:1 throughout the week in addition to their daily phonics lessons. This can happen at any point in the week, so please ensure that your child has their reading books and reading record in school every day. When your child has read with a member of staff, they will use a pink pen to comment in their reading record.

Our days are busy, and children often misplace their belongings. It makes life easier for all of us if everything that comes into school is named, so that it can be reunited with its owner if it goes missing!

PE will be on a Monday and Wednesday. Monday is outdoor PE so jogging bottoms and a hoodie/jumper will be needed as we head into the colder months. Children wearing small stud earrings will need to either remove them or bring in plasters/tape to cover them. PE kits will usually stay in school, but may occasionally be sent home to be washed if they have got wet or muddy.

Dojo messages are the easiest and quickest way to communicate with us, although you can also of course speak to us in person at the door, or via telephone. Please be mindful of our quiet hours on Dojo between 4.30pm and 8am. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Haines, Mrs Pemberton, Mrs Mobley and Miss Pope

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