



Waterhouses CE Primary Academy

Celebrate Learning, Achieving and Friendship in God's Love

A really special welcome back this September; what a difference a week makes! Our first week back at school has given us all some of the normality back that we crave, and what a fantastic week it has been too. The children have shown resilience, bravery and the utmost respect for the new school rules and routines, meaning we have all felt very safe and relaxed about being back together. They really have managed all of the changes to school life so well; I am very proud of them.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to you, parents, for the hard work you have put in at home over the last however many months(!) to keep your children engaged and eager to learn. Your hard work and efforts show in the way they have quickly adapted back to full time school and have been keen to learn and focussed from the word go. For helping to prepare your children for what was always going to be a challenging day on Wednesday, I thank you also. I am very much looking forward to an exciting and productive year with my new fantastic White Tigers class.

Below are some key pieces of information about the organisation of the school week. Now that we are in Year 4/5/6, please do try to encourage your child to take responsibility for organising their own belongings, prepare for PE days themselves, and remember to compete and hand-in homework when it is due.

Remember, our school website is a great place to keep up to speed with key dates and developments within school and I will be using Class Dojo as much as possible to keep in touch with you all on a more personal basis. Please do message me with any concerns or queries and I will get back to you between the hours of 8am and 5pm Monday-Friday.

Kind Regards,

Mrs L Lafford

Christian Values

This half term our Christian value is **thankfulness**. As well as our **core Christian Values: Love, Hope, Respect and Trust**, our in-class workshops (we will not be having whole school workshops at present) and some PSHE lessons will be focused on our current value. Please discuss our values with your child and think of ways they can demonstrate/develop these values this half term. A values sheet will be posted on Class Dojo for you to explore together.

School Planners

There are a plethora of useful resources at the back of your child's planner for home learning/support. Your child's planner is also a tool of communication between home and school. We are actively encouraging the children to track their own learning by filling out their planners frequently so please do ensure they are brought into school every day to record in-class reading and to be used as a learning support tool.

Log in details for websites that can be accessed at home and in school can also be found in your child's planner.

PE Days

PE will continue to take place on a **Wednesday** afternoon. Reminders about correct PE kit can be found in your child's school planner. Please get children to **come to school wearing their PE kit** on a Wednesday as we won't be changing during the day. It is also worth bearing in mind that the children will be outdoors for PE; it is getting cooler and break times will be spent outdoors too. Warm PE kit or layers are advisable.



Health and Safety

Please ensure that earrings are taken out for PE. All children must have access to water throughout the school day, but especially on PE days. Your child should have a clean, labelled water bottle in school at all times.

We **won't** be swimming this half term.

Weekly Organisation Summary

Monday—Spelling test. New spellings set.

Wednesday—PE Kit to be worn to school.

Thursday—Homework due in.

Friday—Library time (reading books will be changed every Friday, or before if applicable, and books will be quarantined for set periods of time before being sent home to other households.) Homework set.



Homework

Reading is a very important part of your child's learning. Children in Key Stage 2 are expected to read for **30 minutes a day** and record this in their school planners. Your child will have a levelled Accelerated Reader book to read at home. Please discuss your child's reading book with them before they complete their quiz to check their understanding.

Spellings are usually sent home every Monday and are tested the following Monday (a Dojo message will be sent out if these days change at any point). Details of the spelling patterns (when applicable) covered in class will be attached to the top of the spelling homework sheets. Spelling homework can be completed on the sheets that will be sent home.

Mental maths continues to be a key focus with Times Tables Rockstars continuing to be a fantastic way to support the development of your child's times tables knowledge. We are expecting the children to log onto the programme at home to continue their rehearsal of key multiplication facts. **10 minutes each day** would make a marked difference in your child's ability and speed of recalling these crucial facts.

Further details regarding homework will be provided in due course.