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OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Appleton CE (A) Primary School
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September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

A new year and new routines

A warm welcome back to school, we hope you had a lovely summer despite these strange times. It has been lovely to have the children back in school and they have been settling in very well to Year 4 and the new routines. We are very much looking forward to working with the children and their families over the coming year.

There are 27 children in Year 4 (Glyme Class) this year. On Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays the class teacher is Mrs Thornton and on Thursdays and Fridays Ms Griffiths will be teaching. Our teaching assistants are Mrs Price and Mrs Williams. On Wednesday mornings we have French lessons with Mrs Richards.

Tuesdays and Fridays are our PE days and children must come to school wearing their PE kits on those days. Long hair must be tied back and all jewellery, including earrings, must be taken off for PE lessons.

All children should have indoor and outdoor shoes in school and they also need a named water bottle each day. They may bring healthy snacks e.g. fruit, crackers or cheese (but no nuts).

Our long term plan is available on our class webpages as well as through Google Classroom. Please note that this may be subject to change (we usually say this but last year had no idea quite how drastic the changes would be!). Regular class updates will also be posted on our class webpage.

Reading, spellings and times tables

We really appreciate your help in supporting your child's reading, spelling and times tables practise at home and it can make a tremendous difference to your child's progress.

As a class and a school we are hugely passionate about inspiring reading. Reading and spellings should be practised every day if possible. The children have each selected a reading book to read while in school and they should also be reading an appropriate book at home. Even if your child is reading independently at home please try to find the time to hear them read and to read to them. As well as being enjoyable, this can really help develop their vocabulary and comprehension. Reading is hugely important not only to academic achievement but also your child's personal development.

Regular spelling practise helps children to retain and remember the spelling in their everyday writing, not just for a spelling test. Weekly spellings will be set using Spelling Shed and this will be set and tested each

week on a Wednesday to Wednesday basis. In class we will also be practising our spellings in our handwriting sessions.

Multiplication tables are practised in school but to really be secure in these, children also need to be practising them at home. In addition to using TTRockstars, this could be through chanting, exploring patterns within the multiples and playing other online tables games. Knowing their times tables and being fluent in their recall will help with so many aspects of maths in KS2. ***The government expects that all children in Year 4 will undergo a multiplication tables check in June 2021 (more details will follow when guidance on this has been updated).***

Any additional homework will be set using Google Classroom.

We really look forward to working with you this year to ensure the best possible progress in your child's learning. If you have any queries or concerns, please do let us know by phoning or emailing the school office.

Best wishes,

Cheryl Thornton and Kate Griffiths