Dear Parents/Carers,



Welcome to the Autumn term in Foxes class. I hope you have had a fantastic, yet restful summer break. We have had a really positive start to the term in Foxes and are excited for the year ahead. We have lots of interesting and inspiring learning opportunities to look forward to!

We are fortunate to have several additional adults supporting the class this term:

- Miss Kerley – learning support assistant.
- Mrs. Bottle – teaching French on a Wednesday afternoon.
- Integrate Dance – teaching dance on a Monday afternoon.
- Personal Best Education – teaching PE on a Wednesday afternoon.

For this half term, our PE days will be Monday and Wednesday, so, we would all be grateful if you could ensure that your child is wearing the correct PE kit. Long hair is to be tied back and no earrings are to be worn. We will be trying to get out for PE, even when the weather changes. Since we are starting to see a drop in temperature, plain jumpers and tracksuit bottoms would be advisable.

Our topic this term is 'The Ancient World' and we are lucky to be able to study four incredible civilisations. Our focus will be on: Maya, Ancient Sumer, Ancient Egypt and Shang Dynasty and understanding their key achievements. I aim to ensure the children are as enthused about the topic as possible and I have greatly enjoyed reading and hearing about the interesting facts, which they learnt over the summer break.

<u>Homework</u>

Homework is slightly different this year for all classes including Foxes:

Spellings: These will be taught in class and as directed learning time. We will not send spellings home to be learned and tested each week.

Reading: We would ask that the children read at least 5 times a week at home and that their reading diaries are signed by an adult. As an incentive, those children who read 5 times will receive a raffle ticket, which then means that they can take part in a fun games session (15 minutes led by Miss Ayers. Please make sure that you sign your child's reading record when you hear them read. In the reading record book you will see a login and password for SORA. This is an on-line site which gives access to a number of different books for your child to enjoy. This may be useful if your child forgets to bring a reading book home.

Times Tables: Having a good grasp of times table and quick recall is an extremely helpful tool for children when approaching maths work. Since this is really achieved through repetition and rote learning, time spent on these at home is very valuable. We will continue to encourage the children to complete their times tables challenge books and have added in a new way to practice. The children will be given a log-in to Times Tables Rock Stars, a game that can be accessed on both computer and tablet. A separate letter will accompany this one to give details of how it will work.

If you do not wish for your child to complete any home learning on a device, we can offer written activities to complete. Please contact me if this is the case and I will make the arrangements.

If your child is inspired to do any additional work at home, either about subjects covered in school, or things that they have been inspired by outside, I would love to see it and would recognise this additional effort in the form of praise and merits.

The school will no longer be using Mathletics as a way of delivering homework.

Homework will be set every Friday and completed by the following Thursday. This allows families to decide when to complete the homework to suit their schedules.

As always, thank you for your support.

Mr Webbe
Foxes Class Teacher