Dear Parents,



Welcome to the autumn term in Otters Class!

I hope you have had a great summer holiday and are ready for a busy and exciting term. I know that I have enjoyed meeting all the children and that our first two weeks have been very successful.

This term we have Mrs Baker supporting our class too.

The autumn term will be split into two topics. For the first half term we will be learning about 'The History of Toys'. The children will be excited to be able to share their favourite toys with the class as well as looking at how toys have changed throughout the years.

In the second half term, our topic will be learning about 'My School' where the children will explore the history of Broughton Primary School and use mapping and fieldwork to gain a deeper understanding of what has changed over the years and why these changes have occurred.

Homework

Reading: This year we will continue to read with your child three times in a week and then send your child's book home. The children will also be responsible for picking a sharing book from our book corner or library to take home. This sharing book can be changed as frequently as it needs to be. It is important for the children to read out loud to an adult at home. This needs to be done as frequently as possible and recorded in their blue reading diary. This year I have set up a reading challenge where I will look in the children's reading diary on a Friday and if they have read five times to an adult at home during that week they will receive a raffle ticket. This will be placed in a draw and two winners a week will be chosen to play board games with Miss Ayers.

In addition to this the children will receive the following homework tasks:

Times Tables: Having a good grasp of times tables 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.

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

This term the children will be busy this term with their outdoor learning. We will be maintaining our area and growing a range of plants. We will also be taking our English and Maths lessons outside. The children will use their 'outdoor' shoes for these activities.

Finally our P.E days are Monday afternoon and Thursday afternoon. This term Monday's P.E lesson will be dancing and Thursday's lesson will be with Miss Haynes. Please make sure your child brings their P.E kit in on a Monday for the week.

The children have been given their own small locker in school. It is very helpful if your child's P.E kit is in a bag that will fit easily into the locker (no large backpacks please).

I look forward to meeting all of you and working with your children throughout the year.

Please don't hesitate to come and see me if you have any concerns or questions.

Molly Gibson – class teacher