

WELCOME BACK TO DONALDSON CLASS!



Information for parents - April 2017

Welcome back to our Summer Term. I hope you had a lovely Easter break and didn't eat too many Easter eggs!

The information below should provide you with some guidance for the following term.

Your continued support in regards to Homework and Behaviour is much appreciated.

<u>Homework</u>	<u>Behaviour</u>	<u>PE</u>	<u>New Entry</u>
Homework will be handed out on Friday and should be returned the next Wednesday. Homework will consist of a piece of Maths and English work each week, as well as learning weekly spellings. Spelling tests will be on a Friday. There may also be a topic homework project set.	Our 'Good to be Green' behaviour system is still working well in class. In holding high expectations for behaviour, we encourage all children to remain on green the whole day. Sometimes a warning is needed and a yellow card is given. There are no consequences for receiving a yellow card. Occasionally, a red card is given and the child will miss 5 minutes of playtime. This is part of normal classroom behaviour management. Parents should be concerned, but not overly alarmed about a red card. However, should the behaviour persist and have an impact on your child's learning, I will arrange a meeting with you.	P.E will continue to be on a Wednesday. For outdoor P.E., we suggest still wearing long tracksuit trousers, and a jumper as we can never trust our English weather, trainers are also encouraged. Please note that earrings should be removed.	Year 1 and 2 children have been entering the school through the side door of the school with great success; it is lovely to see the children developing independence and new skills. Please continue to encourage your child to develop this independence. Reception children continue to enter through the reception class door and we encourage you to stay and help your child settle and self-register.

Reading

Please try and hear your child read as often as possible, ask questions and discuss the story. Tell him/her new words after encouraging her/him to sound out the word first. Even if your child is a good reader and reads of his/her own accord, it is really valuable to help them explore the book in more depth by discussing why the author has used particular words or asking about characters' motivations and feelings. There is space in your child's Reading Record books for your feedback - your comments are valuable to us. I will be reading with your child on Monday and Friday afternoons to change books and check reading records and house points will be awarded for regular readers.

Clubs

This term I am offering a SATs club for Year 2 children only. This will give us the opportunity to explore the SATs test papers, style of questions and layout. Please try to encourage your child to attend the club and I will try to make it as fun as possible, but the main aim is to prepare your child for these tests and give them the greatest possible opportunity to shine and do their best!

An overview of the term

We have a very exciting and busy two terms ahead with Year 1 phonic screening tests, Year 2 SATs and new reception intake sessions as well as all the usual eventfulness of 'normal' school life.

To add to the excitement (some of your children may have already told you) we have little guests we are looking after in class too. We currently have 6 eggs we are incubating in the main classroom and a tank of tadpoles in the reception classroom. These are helping bring the learning alive (literally)! Fingers crossed we do our research and learn how to care for them and help them grow and develop.

Our topic theme this term is 'New Life'. We are looking at non-fiction texts, caring for animals, writing instructions and non-chronological reports, looking at life cycles and animal habitats. Keep your eyes peeled for more little creatures making their way into the classroom and a homework project.

If you have any questions please feel free to catch me at the door at the end of the day, send in a note with your child or make an appointment to meet with me with Mr Johnson or Mrs Drew.

Kind Regards,

Miss Horness