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Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017

## Blue Class Routines - Summer 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Blue Class! The children will continue to be in my class for the morning only, where we will study Maths, English, Spelling and Reading - a lot of our topic work will be taught in English. In the afternoon, the children will stay in class and be taught the rest of the curriculum by Mrs Parker, Mrs Fraser, Mrs Peacock and Mrs Umpleby. Blue class will be going to the forest with Mrs Worgan on a Friday afternoon for the first half term. We will be having a big 'push' on times tables this term in Maths. It would be great if you could support your child with this at home by practising regularly.

The children are continuing to work hard and are a super class. Our topic for the summer term is ~ "Healthy body; Healthy mind". To launch our topic, we enjoyed a 'Big Breakfast' in school, which was great fun. For the first half term, the children will be researching all about being healthy including looking at a healthy diet, and healthy lifestyle and a healthy mind and body. This will culminate in our annual sports day on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May, which you are warmly invited to. After half term our topic will be 'Bon Voyage' and our focus will then be on everything French!

The main means of communication is the homework diary. Please ensure that this comes to school every day. Each Monday, we write in the learning for the week and add any key events that are occurring in school. We expect the children to read every night; this can be a book from home or school. Each child will be issued with a school reading book. The title of each book and the date it's changed are recorded in the child's individual reading record which is kept in class. The children are encouraged to read a range of texts each term, ensuring they become familiar with both fiction and non-fiction genres of writing.



*Please ask if you would like us to provide written information in a more helpful language or format e.g. large print.*

We are using the Read Write Inc Spelling programme in school this year. This was developed by Ruth Miskin and is a robust, fast-paced, systematic spelling programme. It follows the Read Write Inc Phonics programme which is currently taught to our younger children. Each child in Y2 to Y6 will receive a daily 20 minute focused spelling lesson. A range of engaging resources, including online videos, choose the right word and partner dictations, will support learning and each child will receive a vocabulary book to record spellings they are finding tricky. Spelling ability is assessed when children's writing is marked and regular feedback supports progress. Assessments will not be in the form of a separate weekly spelling test. Research has shown that although many children score quite well in their 'weekly test', these spellings aren't always consistently applied correctly in their daily writing following the tests. The systematic and focused approach of Read Write Inc Spelling aims to ensure children use a variety of methods to learn and choose spellings which can be applied correctly in the long-term.

The children are encouraged to practise mental maths regularly at home as well as in school. Our Journey into Space display in class shows the set of objectives your child is working on (each has a planet name) and these are available in your child's homework diary and on our website on the Mathematics page under Curriculum. Activities to support your child with their mental maths can be found on the Mangahigh website ([www.mangahigh.com](http://www.mangahigh.com)) Each child has been given their individual user name and password in order to log on to the site. I also encourage the children to visit the BBC Bitesize website quite regularly. This site also has lots of games and activities which will help the children consolidate their learning in English, Maths and Science. The address is as follows: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/>. Research and various other activities relating to our topic work may also be sent home. We do appreciate your help in supporting our homework policy (please see details on the school website). Extra practise/work at home really does help progress and consolidation of learning.

Our usual PE days this term are Blue Class: Monday (Cricket) and Friday (Forest School) for the first half term, but please keep PE kit in school all week as these may change.

I am very pleased to see that a large number of children have slippers or black pumps to change into when indoors. Could I please remind you to send some indoor shoes in with your child so that we can keep our school clean and tidy?

Do pop into the classroom if you do have any queries, or write a message in the homework diary; e-mail the office or catch me in the playground before school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Phillips  
Class teacher



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