



Beckley Church of England Primary School

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Friday 13th September 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome to the Tufted Duck Class. We have been looking forward to our exciting new class and welcome all our new children to the beginning of their learning journey through Beckley School. In this letter we would like to give you some information about our learning and routines.

Topic

Our main priority at the beginning of the year is to establish class routines. Through discussion and activities we encourage children to become confident and secure in the classroom. We actively encourage sharing and turn taking through playing lots of games. We assist children in developing their independence and explore learning opportunities both indoors and outside.

Our topic focus this term is *Great Britain*. We will be studying maps and we will look at famous landmarks in London. There will be links between our Topic lessons and our PSED and UTW work on humans and differences between cultures.

Reading

We teach children to read through group sessions called Guided Reading. A small group of children will discuss and read an appropriate book together with an adult and spend time on important 'book talk.' Your child will be given a reading folder and book next week. Please return your child's reading folder to school on Mondays. When you hear your child read at home please write in the reading diary.

PE

Our PE days until half term will be Thursdays. However, we recommend keeping your child's PE kit in school every day so we can be flexible and respond to changes in the weather or timetabling. Kits can go home at the end of every half term – or each weekend if you prefer. If any PE kit becomes particularly dirty before this time, we'll let you know.

Snack

Please send in a clearly named healthy snack for your child to eat at morning play. We do not allow crisps, chocolate bars or cakes. Instead we encourage fruit, vegetables, rice cakes, dried fruit or cereal bars. Please note that nuts are **NOT** permitted at school due to children with severe nut allergies. We provide a healthy fruit or vegetable snack for afternoon play, as well as a drink of milk.

Water

We encourage children to drink water throughout the day. Their water bottles are kept accessible in the classroom. Please provide a named water bottle that contains only water. Juice and squash are not permitted during class time.

Clothes

Children need a named jumper, coat and wellies at school as we do use our outdoor area at all opportunities. It can be useful to put a spare set of named clothes in their school bag in case of a toileting issue.

Art

Throughout the term the children will be doing a variety of Art and DT activities. We are always in need of “interesting” bits and pieces (eg: beads, buttons, ribbons, wool, shiny paper, wallpaper/lining paper, bubble wrap, fabric remnants, etc) for collage so please bring them in to class, the children will always find a use for them. The children also enjoy junk modelling for which we always need boxes, kitchen tubes, silver foil trays, etc, and we would ask that you bring these in to school as often as you can. Similarly, any unused diaries, notepads, address books, letter headed paper, envelopes, etc, would be well used in our writing corner.

Play Dough

The children enjoy using play dough and we would hope that you could help by occasionally making some for the class during the term. You will find a termly rota for this on the Reception notice board, together with a recipe.

If you have any questions about your child’s learning, do get in touch with us at school. We believe that learning is most effective when it is a partnership between school and home. The children have made a great start to the term, and are already working hard. We are looking forward to an exciting school year.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Bedding and Mrs Jones