

Dear Parents,

Welcome back. We hope you had an enjoyable Christmas break and we wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year! Firstly, we'd like to thank you for your support during these unsettling times; the Cherry and Apple Classes have settled so beautifully into school life. Their overall passion for learning is incredible and they are building such lovely, respectful relationships with both their peers and teachers.



What will we be learning this term?

We have an exciting term planned that will start with the story, "Grandpa's Magic Slippers," where the children will use his magical slippers to 'travel' to exciting places around the world. As this story supports us in finding out about different environments and recognising similarities and differences, we encourage you to learn together at home by looking at different story settings or by talking about different places that you have visited or might see on the T.V, in magazines or in non-fiction books. We will be transforming one of our 'sheds' into the children's very own Arctic Base Camp to explore and enjoy but shhh please keep this a surprise! One of the countries that we will 'travel' to will be China to learn about the Chinese New Year celebration, so keep your eyes peeled for more information about a 'dress up' day. Because many of the children are interested in super heroes, we will be immersed in many super hero books such as: Superworm and Supertato and the children will take part in 'Super Hero Training School'. We will also learn about different factors that support our overall health and wellbeing which will lead nicely into exploring which 'real life super heroes' help to keep us safe and healthy. As we follow the children's interests, our topics evolve due to their fantastic ideas and imagination which make for an unknown, exciting learning adventure for us all.



P.E

This term the children will have PE on a Friday which will be run by Premier Sports. We encourage PE kits to stay in children's lockers so that they are readily available. Please provide jogging bottoms/leggings for those colder days.

Homework

It is really important that you hear your child read daily and that you read to your child daily too. This will help to develop a love of reading as well as immerse them in rich vocabulary. Talk about the characters and settings, make predictions as to what you think might happen next and discuss how the characters are feeling and why they might be feeling that way. Please record in your child's reading log the stories that you have shared. Your child will read daily at school in phonics and in many other contexts. Their book will be changed once a week - the day that your child will read and have their book changed is written on the front of their home/school contact book. We will be sending a book mark home with 'super power words' on. These are tricky words that can't be decoded using phonics, so your child needs to learn to read them by sight. Why not encourage your child to try writing them in sand or shaving foam. You could write them on post it notes which could be placed on the stairs, so that they can read them each time they go up to bed. For more information on 'tricky words/high frequency words' please read Mr Cowell's post on ClassDojo.

WOWS

We would love to hear about your child's WOWS - our wonderful children often make us say WOW and make us feel incredibly proud when they achieve something new, so why not share that with us. You can do this by uploading a photo onto the ILD and by writing a little message to go with it. We can talk about this WOW with your child and they can share it with the class if they wish. During these 'unusual times', this will really help to bring a little bit of home life into school - something that we are currently really missing. WOWS will be very different for each of our children as they are all individual and unique, but some examples may include: learning to put on their jumper independently, riding a bike without stabilisers, being brave at the doctors, sharing their toys with their brother/sister etc. It can be anything big or small that makes you feel proud.

We really love to hear from you, so if you have any questions, please feel free to send a note in with your child or email the school office; we can then organise a phone call if necessary. We look forward to sharing another fantastic term with you supporting our children to aspire, achieve and grow.

Many thanks,

Miss Hearn, Mrs Wright, Mr Cowell