



## Diamond Class Spring 2024



**Teachers: Mr Power & Mrs Samuel (Wednesday)**  
**Learning Support Assistants: Mrs Rush & Mrs Ayris**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year. We hope you all had a nice summer break and ready for Autumn term. This term in Geography, the focus will be on Marvellous Mountains. Our science focus is Earth and Space.

Please ensure your child has a named water bottle every day, reading book and school diary, named clothing for any sports clubs and a healthy snack for break time (fruit, vegetables, cheese and crackers, cereal bar (no nuts), raisins etc.). **No crisps, chocolate, or biscuits/cakes.**

### **P.E**

Our P.E days this term are Monday and Tuesday. Swimming will take place on a Thursday afternoon so necessary items need to be in school. Swimming kits must be plain black or dark colours please. **Your child needs to come into school wearing their PE kit on a Monday and Tuesday.** They need their purple t-shirt, black shorts, trainers and a tracksuit, which needs to be black or a dark colour. Please ensure that jewellery is not worn on these days. Earrings are not allowed to be taped up and must be removed. All PE kit must be clearly named.

### **Diaries and reading books.**

Your child will receive their reading record which will be used in school as well as at home to record important dates as well as show their reading progress. It is important to record in this book when your child has read to an adult. Reading is such an important part of a child's education. If your child cannot read fluently, they will struggle in later life. Therefore, even in Year 5 it is so important to hear your child read out loud.

If your child is reading fluently to themselves, please encourage them to write their own QUALITY comment. This may include, a prediction, writing definitions to unknown words, making a list of "magpie" words, what their favourite part is of a book and why they enjoyed/did not enjoy a book. Diaries must be brought into school each morning and then taken home at the end of the day.

Your child will select a reading book from school. The book can be from our school library, one of the books from our book corner or even a book from home which is of appropriate challenge. When they have finished reading their book, it is your child's responsibility to change it for a new one.

The children do have a good selection of books to read from the class, and they will have the opportunity to choose a book from the school library and change it regularly, but if your child would like to bring it a book from home, they are welcome to do so. Could I ask that no magazines/annuals etc. are brought in to read at school (although they are fine for reading material at home).

Therefore, part of their continued homework is daily reading for a minimum of 20 minutes per night.

Our expectation is that your child reads 5 times a week.

### **Spelling**

In Year 5, the children will be taught using Spelling Tutor, which takes place daily. There will be no expectation for children to practise spellings at home as part of their homework.

### **Doodle Maths/TTRS**

Please ensure that your child regularly completes tasks on Doodle Maths and/or Times Tables Rockstars. It is imperative that your child does this regularly to ensure greater retention. This should be daily for around **10 minutes per day**.

### **Homework**

To support your child with their continued learning, they will receive an English activity linked to what they have been looking at during the week. This homework will be sent out on a Thursday, and it is expected back in on the following Tuesday. There will also be an optional homework for them to complete over the term; this will be in their homework book.

### **Helping in class**

We welcome parents to help with reading and other activities in school. A DBS check will be required. If you would like to become a regular helper in school, please do let us know which days and times you are available.

We look forward to working with you closely this year. If you have any queries or concerns, please feel free to come and speak to us.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Power, Mrs Samuel, Mrs Rush, and Mrs Ayriss