

Welcome back. We have had a fabulous start to our new term and the children have settled into the school routine wonderfully and enjoyed sharing their summer holiday stories.

**Morning Routine** - The class doors are open at 8.30am. Each morning the children will be set an activity to complete, which you may help them with, starting with a Weekend News entry on Monday and then other activities which may include handwriting, phonics, numeracy and free activities. At 8.45am the class Teacher will call the children together to take the register and lunch requirements.

**End of School** - Class ends at 3.05pm. The Class Teacher will call out each child once they see their parent in the playground. If someone other than a parent is to collect your child please let the Class Teacher know at the beginning of the day. Children will not be handed over unless we have your authority to do so.

**Home School Link Book** - This will be issued to you next Friday. Please ensure your child's Home School Link Book is in school on Thursdays in order for us to change reading books. It will be returned on Friday. Please use these to communicate with the school and to let us know your child's achievements outside school. If you have an urgent message please contact your Class Teacher directly.

**Reading Books and Keyword Sheets** - Children will be bringing home their reading books next week. A new reading book will only be issued once the old one is returned. Please hand in reading books every **Thursday** so the teacher can select a new book. If your child is still learning their Keywords an appropriate sheet will be stuck in their Home School Link Book. It would be very beneficial to them if you could help them learn these words by sight. Once they can recognise all of the words on the sheet they will be presented with a certificate and the next sheet stuck in to their books. If you are confident your child has successfully learnt these words, please write their name on the board provided and they can be tested on a Friday.

**Handwriting** - We will be focussing on the children using the correct letter formation. It would be very helpful if you could support this from home whenever you are practising writing with them. We enclose a guidance sheet to demonstrate where letters start and the direction required.

**Clothing** - Please could we ask you to label all of your child's clothing clearly to help them locate it when they are changing for PE. We encourage children to be independent and dress themselves and lost clothing can be very stressful for them. PE kits will remain in class in the box provided and will be sent home randomly when looking a little grubby. PE this year will be on a Tuesday and Thursday.

**Fruit** - the Government provide a piece of fruit each day for KS1 children, which they eat after playtime in the morning. If you would like your child to have a piece of fruit to eat following the afternoon break they can bring this in and put it in the box provided next to the drinks bottles in the classroom.

**School Dinners** - If you would like your child to have a hot meal at lunch time all Key Stage 1 are entitled to one under the Government Universal Free Meals Scheme. A copy of the school menu can be found on the school website [www.ovschool.co.uk/parent information/school dinners information](http://www.ovschool.co.uk/parent%20information/school%20dinners%20information).

**Forest Schools** - Each class will be taking part in forest school activities. The days for each class will be determined soon and we will let you know as soon as possible. On your classes chosen day please bring in wellies, clearly labelled in a bag.

If you have any questions please do come and speak to us. Thank you for all your support with settling your child this week. We hope you have a lovely weekend.

**Diary Dates (don't forget to check the school website, [www.ovschool.co.uk](http://www.ovschool.co.uk) for up to date information)**

Thur, 4<sup>th</sup> October - Key Stage One day trip to Paignton Zoo (letters being sent home today)

Thur, 11<sup>th</sup> October - Friends of Orchard Vale - School Disco (more details to come)

Thur, 18<sup>th</sup> October - School photos (more details to come)

Fri, 19<sup>th</sup> October - Non Pupil Day

Mon, 22<sup>nd</sup> to Fri, 26<sup>th</sup> October - Half Term

KS1 Team