

Dear Parents / Carers,

Firstly thank you for your incredible support during lockdown and home schooling, I know it was incredibly tough on everyone with lots of you juggling working from home, looking after little ones and trying to complete the home learning with the children.

Today has been an incredible first day back, I know many of you had expressed worries and concerns and there may well have been a lot of brave faces this morning but there were no tears. I was so happy to welcome all of the children back into the classroom and have been amazed with how quickly they have settled back into the routine.

All children have been listened to reading today and we have changed all books; I have been blown away with the progress many children have made in their reading. We will be reintroducing our weekly reading merits next week. A reading merit is awarded to anyone who reads every day and has this recorded in their diary. The recording is really important as it allows us to see how the children are coping with the reading at home. Please can I ask that any books you currently have at home are returned to school and that you just have the one that is listed in their diary.

### Home learning

Your support at home makes a huge difference and is always greatly appreciated.

**Reading** - daily reading at home is one of the most important things you can do to support your child at home. Even if your child is a free reader, hearing them read, helping with unfamiliar vocabulary and discussing the story and characters makes a huge difference.

**Phonics** - There are lots of great online resources that your children can be using to support them with their phonics learning. We have just currently working through Phase 5.

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/5-7-years/letters-and-sounds>

<https://www.phonicsbloom.com>

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/phase-5-games.html>

There will be no home learning brochure and instead weekly activities will be assigned on Seesaw, please upload your child's home learning before Tuesday morning. Each task will be set on A Wednesday- tasks will be based on developing and securing maths skills, phonics and reading.

### Drop off and collection arrangements:

Thank you for your support with this during this unusual time. This is happening a lot quicker now so please do not worry if your child's class has already started to head into school. It just allows us to get the area outside of the school cleared.

**Class 1: 8:50am** drop off main gate **3:10pm** collection from main gate

With this new drop off and collective arrangement if you need to speak with me about anything please contact me using my email address [s.igoe@ashtonkeynes.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:s.igoe@ashtonkeynes.wilts.sch.uk).

### Forest School:

Forest school clothes can be worn and wellies should be brought to school in a named bag on the day and taken home with them. If PE is on the same day then please ensure your child has enough layers for forest school. The dates are below:

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

### PE Sessions:

Tuesday and Friday although w/c 15<sup>th</sup> March it will be Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> instead of Friday 19<sup>th</sup>. This is for this week only.

Miss Igoe