

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to a new term and a new school year. I hope you had an enjoyable and restful summer holiday. It's hard to believe that we are about to start week 4 and it certainly feels like the children have always been in Year 1! I've tried to cover most significant things below, but if there is anything I've missed, or if you would like to talk to me about something specific, please email me [mmytton@elton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:mmytton@elton.cambs.sch.uk) or phone the office to make an appointment.

We are very lucky to have two additional adults in our class this year; Mrs Hallam is our student teacher and has been with us since the start of term, and Miss Muggleton is with us on Tuesdays, but should be with us every day, very soon. Please say hello to them when you see them around school or at the end of day.

- **The Big Question** - Our 'Big Question' this term is "Would I have been happier in the past?" We will be endeavouring to explore 3 key concepts through this question, which are ***Opportunity, Remembrance and Hope***.

The Past as a concept is very difficult for young children, so we will be learning about what it was like when their grandparents were young. If we have any Grandparents willing to come in to school to talk to the children about their childhood, we would love to have them! So please get in touch with me or the Office and let me know.

- **Visits**  
Year 1 and 2 will be having a joint visit this term - probably it will be a trip to the museum and Cathedral so please look out for an email with further details.
- **PE** Our timetabled PE slot this half term is timetabled for Monday afternoon and will be taught by Mr Reed. Please remember that earrings should be removed or taped and long hair should be tied back, in accordance with the school uniform policy.
- **Homework** – A **mental maths task** and **spellings** will be set on TEAMS every Thursday beginning 29.9.22 and should be returned by the following Wednesday, by either photographing and putting on Teams or sending me a paper copy in to school. The school is trying to reduce the amount of paper which we use so I won't be sending out paper copies of homework unless you specifically request one. If you need a paper copy of the homework then please let me know. We will do a spelling "quiz" on Friday morning.
- Children will be in either the **Sun, Moon or Stars** group. You will only be able to access your child's group's homework on Teams.
- Please keep in mind that it's much more beneficial to do 5 minutes of maths and spelling every day than 30 minutes all in one go. If you have any queries about how to approach a particular task, please let me know and I will be happy to help.
- **Reading** - We are using the same scheme this year as in EYFS (Collins Big Cat not Oxford Reading Tree). It would be lovely to be able to send books home but for financial reasons most primary schools, like us, are using online reading now. Children do guided reading with an adult three times a week in school. On Thursday the book they have been reading is made available on the Collins Open page site: [Click here for link](#) for reading at home. The password is the same as last year. However, if you need it sending again, then please ask. Children can bring home a reading for pleasure book every week. Please return these to school so that other children can borrow them.

Many thanks for your support. I look forward to a busy and exciting term with your children. Please come up and say hello after school when I see the class out at the end of the day.

Michelle Mytton

