



ELTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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“LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU”

FRIENDSHIP

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Y2 Class Information Autumn Term 2024 Mrs Steenkamp

Welcome back to a new term and a new school year! I hope you had an enjoyable and restful summer holiday. After just a few days, it feels like we have always been together and the children are settling in well, including 4 new additions to our school and class! I am enjoying getting to know your children – they certainly are a lovely bunch! ☺

I have tried to pre-empt any questions you may have in the information outlined below, but as always, if there is anything I've missed, or if you would like to talk to me about something specific, please email me on jsteenkamp@elton.cambs.sch.uk or feel free to 'grab' me outside at the end of the day.

The Big Question - Our 'Big Question' this term is **“What does it mean to be powerful?”** We will be endeavouring to explore 2 key concepts through this question. These are:

- responsibility
- wealth

Curriculum – the first half term will be based on a Geography theme and includes map work and exploring our local area. In terms of History, the past is often a tricky concept for young children to grasp, so we will be trying to 'fire up' (excuse the pun!) their imaginations by looking at the story of Guy Fawkes and the gunpowder plot. In Science the children will be learning about 'animals, including humans' and 'light'. If you have any artefacts, skills or experiences that you feel would enhance our 'Big Question' then please get in touch; we'd love to hear from you!

Staffing – As well as myself, year 2 will be supported in the mornings by Mrs Faye Logan (apart from Thursday mornings, which will be covered by Mrs Barrows.) Mrs Yassini will also support for an hour in the afternoons (apart from Friday.)

Visits – Later in the term, Year Two (accompanied by Year One) will be visiting Peterborough Cathedral for a full day excursion entitled 'Exploring Christmas'. After the successful visit to the theatre last summer on the public bus, it is likely that we will travel to town again in the same way! More information will be with you closer to the time.

PE – Our timetabled PE slot this half term is Thursday afternoon and will be taught by the wonderful Callum. Your children will need to come to school on a Thursday in their full PE kit. Children should also come to school in their PE kit on the days when they attend a sports club after school. Please remember that earrings should be removed or taped and long hair should be tied back, in accordance with the school uniform policy.

Homework – I will set weekly homework on your child's TEAMS account every Thursday. This will detail the mental maths and spelling tasks for the week. These tasks should be undertaken daily for 5 minutes per subject. I will also set a task on **edshed** to support with learning the week's spellings so it would be very helpful if you could teach your child to memorise their login and password independently (if they don't already know it ☺) If you have any queries about how to approach a particular task, or accessing 'Edshed' please let me know and I will be happy to help. **This year, the**

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children will complete a spelling test on their given spelling words every FRIDAY morning. However, homework will not commence until Thursday 26th September, with the first spelling test on the following Friday.

IMPORTANT – in your child’s book bag today, you will find a brown envelope containing new logins for TEAMS and for TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS. Passwords for Purple Mash and Edshed remain the same but if you forget or lose them, please email me and I will send them to you.

Reading - All children will be reading on a daily basis in class in the form of a whole class reading session. We usually have a reading theme for the week and read a variety of texts based on this theme. Then we discuss and answer questions on the text focusing on a selection of VIPERS questions; Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explain, Retrieve and Sequence.

It is also vitally important that your child reads at home as part of their daily homework. Your child will (soon) **either** have a book in their book bag OR will be able to access a reading book online via ‘Collin’s Big Cat’. If you have any problems accessing the online books, please drop me an email and I will forward it to Mrs Yassini to sort out! 😊 As well as this, the children are encouraged to take home a ‘reading for pleasure’ book to share with you. I am also aware aware that some of the children read books from home. I am more than happy with this, so please don’t feel the pressure to read school books if you have a suitable selection at home. The most important thing is that your child reads regularly and LOVES reading! Unlike previous years, your child will NOT have a reading record book. However, if you wish to share any news about your child’s reading at home with me, Please email me! 😊

Many thanks for your support. I look forward to a busy and exciting term with your children. Please feel free to talk to me about how your child has settled any time after school when I see the class out at the end of the day.

Best Wishes,

Jo Steenkamp