



# Eagles Class Newsletter

## Autumn 2017

As always, the children have come back to school full of enthusiasm, well equipped and eager to learn. Thank you for providing and naming all their equipment and clothes; it makes a huge difference.

Our main focus this term is Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age and, where possible, other areas of the curriculum will be linked to this main focus. A trip has been booked to The Novium Museum in Chichester on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October: details about this have already been sent home. If you have a spare day at a weekend or during half term, a visit to Butser Ancient Farm near Waterlooville in Hampshire might be interesting and a trip to the British Museum would definitely be worthwhile. Unfortunately, there are very few local places to visit linked to this period in history.

In Eagles Class we have two PE lessons per week. On Mondays we will aim to be outside, learning skills and playing variations of invasion games such as Hockey, Netball, Football and Tag Rugby. As the weather gets colder, I recommend that the children have a pair of navy blue jogging bottoms to

put on. They will also need trainers and football boots later in the term. Our second PE day will be Wednesday when we will often be using the hall for gymnastics, dance badminton etc. But ... PE kit needs to be in school all week please because, although PE will be timetabled for Mondays and Wednesdays, this may need to be changed from time to time at short notice.

As discussed at the meeting, we are aiming to give just a minimum of homework each week but it is really important that this work is completed properly with sufficient time allocated for real learning to take place. An outline timetable for the week is attached which I will endeavour to follow as closely as possible. It shows when PE, music, spelling tests and other activities will happen and what needs to be handed in when. If your child has not finished a piece of classwork in a given time they may also be asked to complete this work at home. Please help your child to organise their time and not leave work until the last minute. Fridays will be when new spellings are introduced and words set the previous week are tested. In the intervening week, the children are expected to

practice their handwriting skills and their spelling list at home by writing the words neatly several times in their purple handwriting books.

It is essential that times tables are practised regularly and that children have almost instant recall of number bonds and facts such as 'How many 9s in 63?', 'What is 7 squared?', '8x7=?'. Handling/managing money is also a very useful skill to practice as is telling the time using analogue and digital clocks, weighing and measuring etc.

Regular reading is very important at this age and the children are expected to read **at least three times a week for between 20 and 30 minutes.** Your encouragement and support with this will make a big difference. Talk with your child about what they are reading and get them to tell you a bit about the plot or a character from their book. Your child has a reading diary which should be brought, with their reading book, backwards and forwards between home and school each day. This diary is to record brief details of all their reading (date, title, page no. etc) . They are not expected to write a comment each time they read but a short comment once they

have finished the book would be a good idea. This journal enables me to have an overview on the amount and type of reading your child is doing. Children who have not done sufficient reading or learnt their spellings will be expected to catch up during Golden Time on Friday afternoons.

On Thursday afternoons and all day Friday, Mrs Jameson will be taking the class. She will mainly be focusing on science and practical maths linked to this. In addition, she will teach spellings and word work and RE. So if you have any queries about these subjects, she will be the best person to discuss this with, probably on Fridays after school.

And finally

Please feel free to come into the classroom if you have any concerns or if you want to have a look at any of your child's work ... As always, life in school, and particularly in Eagles Class, is very busy. Your help in naming uniform, responding promptly to letters home and requests for help is greatly appreciated.

Thank you again for all your support.

### Eagles Class Outline Timetable

	In School	Bring to school	At home
<b>Sunday</b>			Pack your bag:
<b>Monday</b>	PE	PE kit, reading book and diary, any letters	Read and practice spellings and maths knowledge
<b>Tuesday</b>		Reading book and diary	Read and practice spellings and maths knowledge
<b>Wednesday</b>	PE	Reading book and diary	Read and practice spellings and maths knowledge
<b>Thursday</b>	Reading Diary check	Reading book and diary	Read and practice spellings and maths knowledge
<b>Friday</b>	Spelling test Music	Reading book and diary Purple handwriting book	More reading

PE kit to remain in school at all times, please.

Reading book and reading diary must be brought to school each day.

Ideally, pencil cases should remain at school, please.

We are aiming to go across the fields to the woods from time to time so Forest School type clothes will sometimes be needed too. Your child will be told in advance when this is going to happen.

