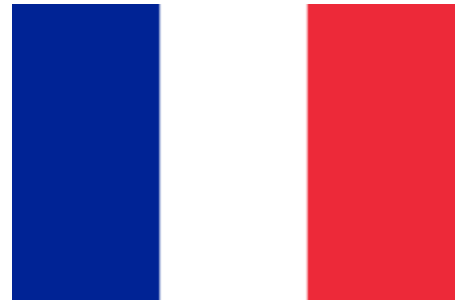


France Class Newsletter

September 2019



Dear Parents,

Welcome to France Class and your child's first half term in Reception!! This newsletter will hopefully give you a rough guide as to what will be happening throughout this half term. Most of this information was discussed at the presentation evening in July, but if you have any questions please ask Mrs Parker or myself and we will try our best to help.

Mornings

To encourage the children's independence please get them to put their own things away in the morning so that they know where to find things during the day. Remind them to move their name on the lunch register in the morning so they know if they are having a packed lunch or school dinner and to put their book bag in the correct French city box.

Free fruit is available on a daily basis but if you would like them to have an additional healthy snack please make sure it is in their drawer for easy access. The children only have 15 minutes for break time so please just keep it to something small. Please make sure your child brings a water bottle to school on Monday mornings which we will send home on Friday. Juice is not allowed in classrooms and only in the hall at lunch times. If your child is having a packed lunch please can you provide a separate drink that they can take with them at lunchtime as water bottles stay in the classroom. We also would ask that filled water bottles do not go into book bags as they do have a tendency to leak over school books.

We have a red book in the classroom in the register and letter tray. Please write in this book if your child is going to be collected by anyone other than their Mum or Dad. We must have your permission to release your child into the care of someone other than yourselves (even other family members). If you have forgotten to write a message in the red book and haven't remembered to phone school, then we will need to ring to confirm arrangements with you before we let the children go.

The notice board in the classroom has information about what we are doing in school which is located on the cupboard door as you go towards the cloakroom. Each day as we learn a new sound it will be added to the Read Write Inc learning wall as well as 'tricky words' which we will be learning every week.

PE

Our PE will usually be on a Monday morning with NUFC and Friday afternoon, however please leave their PE kit in school all week and **please, please, please make sure it is all named**. I do like to take the children outside for PE when the weather permits so please have shoes in their PE kit as well as warm sweatshirts and leggings/joggers. If PE kits are not in school your child will unfortunately miss out on the session.



Wellies

Please send in some named wellies for your child and put them on the shelf. If they don't have wellies in school they could miss out on valuable learning experiences as we like to get outside regardless of the weather!

Reading

We will be sending home a shared reading book from the school library shortly. This is a book to read with your child, it is not a book that children are expected to read for themselves. Please spend time talking to your child about the story and focus on how the characters might be feeling.

We will begin to send home reading books which we will change on a Thursday. Initially it will not contain any words. Please encourage discussion of the 'story' and share ideas of what the characters might be saying, thinking, or feeling. Most books have some key questions included to explore with your child. It is a very important skill that children are able to remember what happens in a story and begin to retell with as much detail as possible without using the pictures as clues.

We will be starting our sound work next week, as we begin to follow the Read Write Inc phonics programme. The children will learn these very quickly, usually a sound a day followed by time practising to read words using the sounds they have learnt. They will receive a sheet each day they learn a new sound showing how we teach the children to correctly form the letter(s) that make that sound. Once the children have learnt a few sounds we will start blending words which we will send out with instructions, these are called green words. The children **will not** be sent home books with words until they have learnt enough sounds I feel they are ready to practice at home.

In addition to the green words we will quickly start to read and recognise high frequency words, words which appear regularly in stories and also 'red words' - words which can only be read and not sounded out. These will be sent out on flashcards to keep going over and practising at home regularly.

It is really important to read little and often with your child as the more they read the more they gain confidence and the quicker they will progress.

Topics

Over this half term we plan to learn about France, all about me and the local environment. Depending on how interested the children are in the topics, we may lengthen or shorten them, in which case we could do more or less than those listed. Shortly I will start sending home Remy the French rooster to visit the children at home for the weekend. The children come back to school with Remy the following Monday and tell us all about their visit. I will also send a scrap book home with Remy so you can include photographs and writing about their adventures. As the year progresses the children will be encouraged to use their phonic knowledge and begin to write their own simple sentences. This is to encourage their speaking and listening skills in front of a familiar group. Please try to remember to bring him back after the weekend!



Class Worship

Each term, every class have a class worship that they lead for the rest of the school. Parents, Grandparents, family and friends are invited to attend class worship, however if younger children attend and become restless and start making a lot of noise, we do ask that you take them out so that the children doing the worship can be heard. They work really hard and their voices can be very quiet, especially in Reception. Worship is always on a Wednesday morning at 9.15 and France Class will be doing their worship next half term, - Wednesday 27th November.

The first few days have been fantastic and we have all settled in really well! Photos are on the window of some of the activities we have done, please try and have a look as we will be changing these regularly!

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to come and ask me. I am really looking forward to the forthcoming year working together.

Mrs Whaley