

# Key Stage 1 Newsletter

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a fun and restful Summer break!

## Our Learning

This half-term our topic is "How can we save the planet?" We will explore one country from each continent every week. We will be learning many of our skills in Literacy, Geography, Art, Music etc. through exciting activities such as building wigwams, tasting croissants, drawing Adinkra patterns or throwing boomerangs. Children will continue to work on their passport which reinforces your child's learning in all areas, so please keep encouraging your child to fill their passport in order to bring home a certificate on Friday! Please see the reverse of this letter to see more detail about what and how we will be learning in the different subject areas.

## Reading

It is really important that you read with your child at home. Children make much better progress in reading if their learning at school is followed up at home – even if it is just a few pages or a few minutes a day. Stickers are awarded to children if comments have been written in their reading diary to show that they have read at home. Thank you to everyone who makes a big effort to read at home and to bring their book bag every day.

## PE

Thank you to everyone who makes sure their child's PE kit is in school all week. Please ensure your child's PE kit is in school all week, including suitable pumps or trainers, to ensure that your child does not miss out on this important part of the curriculum. PE days change so please bring your kit on Monday and don't take it home until Friday. Please ensure all clothing is named. We are much more likely to find a lost jumper with a name in it!

## Water bottles

All children should bring a water bottle to school every day, containing only water. It is really important that your child has access to water throughout the day so please remember to bring those bottles.

## Homework

Well done to everyone who remembered to return their Summer Diary. If you haven't already, please bring it back quickly to enable your child to share their diary with others, to earn their Golden Ticket and to be in with a chance of a prize.

Your child will be bringing home a picture of a flag this week. Their learning log to be completed during this half-term and to be returned by Friday October 14<sup>th</sup> is to find out about their country as represented by their flag. It is really important that your child brings this learning log back on time as they will be presenting their findings to others in class the following week.

Please remember to use your Phonics and Maths packs. When you do, mention it in your child's Reading Diary for them to earn a sticker. If there's anything you need to help your child please ask.

## Spelling

Spellings will be sent home on a Monday for a spelling test the following Monday. Please keep helping your child to learn their spellings. It is clear to see by the marks children get who has been practising!

## Timestables

Children need to know their times tables off by heart. We learn the 2, 5 and 10x table first followed by the 3x table. Extra support at home will be very beneficial – even if it's just reciting them on the way to school! If you have been learning number facts or when you do, please write this in your child's reading diary to help them to earn a sticker.

## Tour de France

Our first continent is Europe and the country we are learning about is France. As part of this experience children are allowed to bring their bike and helmet on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September for a mini Tour de France experience on Friday afternoon. Children will be asked to share their bike for those who do not have one so if you are not happy for your child to share their bike please do not allow them to bring it. No scooters this time please – only bikes in Tour de France!

## Boxes

Please can your child bring a box of any size (or more than one if possible) to enable us to make Antarctic vehicles later in the half-term.

## Save our Planet

We will be performing a small play called "Save Our Planet" at the end of the half-term. Tickets will be available to buy for £1 at the office from Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September. Money raised will go towards our class sponsoring Millie at the Dogs' Trust for another year. Your child will bring home details of their part in the next couple of weeks. We will be asking you to provide a costume, but just something very simple that can be made up of clothes your child already owns e.g. to wear a certain colour. We will be doing a Christmas play as usual so we appreciate that you will already be working hard at costumes in December and so don't want "Save Our Planet" to cause you too much effort or to cost you too much money.

## Dates for your diary

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 'Tour de France' – bring your bike

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October Parent's Evening 5-8pm

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October Parent's Evening 3.30-5.30

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October

Save Our Planet play 2.00pm

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October School closed – Staff training day

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely, Miss Watson, Miss Jacquie and Mrs. Walton