



10th September 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Hercules class! We hope you have all had a fantastic summer break and had a lot of fun days with your family whilst keeping safe and well.

We would like to start this letter by introducing our Hercules team. Mrs Hunter is the class teacher on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday morning. Miss Cuthbertson is the class teacher on Wednesday afternoon, Thursdays and Fridays. Miss Williams and Mrs Deegan will be supporting us within the classroom throughout the week. We will obviously all work and communicate together to ensure the smooth running of the class and to ensure the children are in a safe and fun learning environment.

We are pleased to report that we will be re-starting our whole school face-to-face assemblies. This is a fantastic time to bring everyone together and to celebrate our achievements. Within these assemblies we will explore the whole school 'SHINE' ethos (Strive, Help, Inspire, Nurture and Excel).

Our learning

To begin our new school year we have many exciting things to explore and learn. The areas we will be exploring for the first half term are:

History-The Local Area
Science- Materials and their uses
PE- Hockey
RE-Harvest and Remembrance
Computing- E-Safety
PSHE- Beginning and belonging

Many things to keep us busy!

Early Morning Activities

The school is going back to the same start and end times across all classes. We will open our doors at 8.40 and the end of the school day is 3.15. Can we please ask you to be prompt on arrival and collection.

Every morning the children will need to put all their belongings away and then begin their morning activities straight away. This will consist of spellings, reading, and maths tasks linked to their current learning.

Some children will be part of early morning interventions to assist with their learning. If your child is highlighted to benefit from this work, you will be notified and your child will be invited in.



Snack Time

Every morning during break time, the children can have a snack. To help promote our schools healthy eating policy we ask that they bring fruit or vegetables only. Please can all grapes and cherry tomatoes be cut in half correctly to avoid choking. Provide your child with a named water bottle that is brought in daily with fresh clean water. We ask water bottles are filled with water only, not any juice or squash.

PE

This term our regular weekly PE session will take place on a Thursday afternoon. We are currently asking all children to come to school on their PE day in full PE uniform. This consists of blue jogging bottoms / shorts, white t-shirt, suitable trainers and their red school sweatshirt. They can then bring a blue sweatshirt to change into for their PE lesson if they wish.

Forest school

Hercules class are so fortunate that they will be starting the school year by attending forest school every Tuesday afternoon. All children need to come to school in suitable clothing. They must have arms and legs covered and wear clothing that they are prepared to get dirty. Forest school still goes ahead in all weather. So children need to bring in waterproofs and extra layers to keep themselves warm and dry. For the school day, children need to wear their normal school shoes and school sweatshirt. When they go into forest school they will need to wear wellies. These can be kept in school on our welly rack which is located on the ramp of our main classroom.

Homework and Reading

We ask that the children read at least 5 times a week for 10-15 minutes. Every child has a reading diary to record their own reading achievements. Please encourage your child to write a comment of their own in these books.

Reading diaries need to come into school every day to be checked and monitored. Reading books can of course be borrowed from school. Can we also remind you at this point about the fantastic online resource of the Oxford Owl. There are many books available to read in their free e-library.

Every Friday the children will receive 10 spellings. These will be checked every Friday, so please encourage your child to learn them. In order to help them learn, we will be providing a crib sheet of different activities to be completed to work alongside these spellings. We all learn in different ways so we want to highlight the importance of a varied approach to our learning.

Times tables will also be checked every Friday. We believe these are the core to all areas of maths. Children need to have quick recall of assigned tables both in and out of order.

We will also set additional 'topic challenges'. These will cover many aspect of the curriculum and need to be completed throughout the term. These challenges will be shared in class with their peers.



Clothing

Can we give you a polite reminder that all clothing needs to be named. We see many items of clothing, especially school jumpers, being parted from their owners. We will encourage and remind children to place all jumpers and cardigans in bags when not being worn, but please could you name items to help us in matching them with the correct child.

Equipment

Your child will be provided with all the equipment they will need within the classroom. Can we ask that no extra pencil cases and goodies come in from home.

Attendance

At the start of this new school year, we would like to remind you of the importance of your child's regular attendance. Our target is 95%! Children who attend less than this can fall significantly behind in their learning.

95% attendance is still the equivalent of 2 weeks missed learning over the year. Children who attend fewer than 90% of sessions can find this having a serious impact on their learning, this is equivalent of 4 weeks missed leaning, or 100 missed lessons over the year.

Timetable

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|----------------|---|-------|---|---------------|--------------|
| Monday | Spelling /Maths | English | B | Maths | L | Science | Computing |
| Tuesday | Spelling /Maths | English | R | Maths | U | Forest school | |
| Wednesday | Spelling /Maths | Italian / PSHE | E | Maths | N | English | Music |
| Thursday | Handwriting | English | A | Maths | C | PE | RE |
| Friday | Spelling and times tables | English | K | Maths | H | History | SHINE skills |

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this letter. I hope you are in agreement that we are in a partnership to promote your child's happiness and support their education and learning. We look forward to working with you and your child during the year ahead. If you wish to discuss anything about your letter please do not hesitate to contact us.



Brize Norton Primary School

Striving, Helping, Inspiring, Nurturing, Excelling



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Yours sincerely,

Mrs Catherine Hunter and Miss Emma Cuthbertson

