



7<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and welcome back to the Hercules class! We hope you have all had a fantastic Christmas break.

Our Hercules team has stayed the same as last term. 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 Glenister 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 continuing to have our assemblies throughout the school. 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 continue our school year we have many exciting things to explore and learn. The areas we will be exploring for the coming half term are:

Geography – Comparing weather in different places  
Science- Humans - Senses  
PE – Netball  
RE - Hinduism - Holi  
Computing - Coding, moving a robot  
PSHE – Family and Friends

Many things to keep us busy!

### Early Morning Activities

The school opens 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.

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 school's 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 continue to 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.

## Swimming

This term our class will be going swimming on a Wednesday afternoon. They need to bring a swimming costume (no two-piece costumes please), hat and a towel. Can we ask for everything to be named and bought into school in a named bag.

## 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.

We would like the children to bring their reading diaries 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.

## 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. Please do not send extra pencil cases and goodies from home.

## Attendance

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 learning, or 100 missed lessons over the year.



Timetable

Monday	Guided reading	English	B	Maths	L	Science	
Tuesday	Guided reading	English	R	Maths	U	Music	Computing
Wednesday	Guided reading	Italian / English	E	Maths	N	Swimming	PSHE
Thursday	Guided reading	English	A	Maths	C	PE	RE
Friday	Guided reading	English	K	Maths	H	Geography	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.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Catherine Hunter and Miss Emma Cuthbertson