6.9.19

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year and I hope you all had a lovely, relaxing summer break.

I will be teaching the class each day with the exception of Monday afternoons when Mrs Ventress takes over to teach R.E. and music. We will also be joined by a sports coach for one of our P.E. lessons during the first half of this term. Mrs Cocker and Mrs Ventress are the fabulous T.A.’s who work with the class at varying times throughout the week.

Details of our curriculum can be found attached to this letter and are also available on our school website. I am also sending a copy of the assessment frameworks for reading, writing and maths for your reference, as in May the children will be assessed against these challenging criteria.

To help your child at home I ask that you are diligent in listening to them read on a daily basis as stated in our homework policy. This is a crucial life skill and the best way to improve is with frequent practice. Ultimately our aim in school is to develop a love of reading and you play a key part in this by modelling reading at home, sharing books just for fun and reading to your child. Your child will also read regularly in school. Their first task each day is to read their home-school reading book and both myself and my T.A.’s will listen to your child reading as often as is possible. I have attached a note in each child’s reading record explaining that they can change their book daily as long as they have read it at home and had their reading record signed. Raffle tickets will be awarded each time your child’s reading record is signed and a winner will be drawn every Friday for a small prize.

In terms of maths, again regular practise is the key to developing your child’s confidence and competence. Number bonds to 10 (eg, 7+3, 5+5, 6+4…) are always a good place to start if your child is not yet secure with these before moving on to add and subtract 1-digit numbers mentally. Learning doubles facts for all numbers up to 20 is another key skill and linking these to corresponding halves facts is also beneficial. Simply practising counting in steps of 2, 5, 10 and 3 can also have a big impact.

My last request from you as parents is a full **named** P.E. kit in school at all times please. Our official P.E. days are Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays but I do like to take advantage of the good weather when time permits.

Finally, there will be a parents evening towards the end of this term to discuss your individual child’s progress, however, if you have any queries or concerns before this, please do not hesitate to contact me before then. I am available in the playground at the end of most days or an appointment can be arranged through the school office if you prefer.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and I look forward to a happy, hard-working term in year two.

Mrs Cross