

Winkleigh Primary School

Owls – Autumn Term Newsletter



Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Owls Class!

We hope you are all well and had a wonderful Summer.

We have been busy during the Summer holidays getting the classroom ready for our new Owls and we cannot wait to welcome the children into school this term. We have lots of fun activities planned and are hoping to use our lovely outside space as much as we can come rain or shine this term, so please make sure your child has a sunhat with them each day and also a coat when the weather turns cooler.

During the first part of this term we will be focusing on 'ourselves', thinking about our feelings, our families, what is special to us, and what we like and don't like to do! We are all so looking forward to getting to know your children and will be spending lots of time learning through play.

During the second half of the term we will move on to learning about a range of different festivals and celebrations as we head towards Christmas.

We will be using our running track as much as possible, and the children will have PE sessions on a Tuesday and a Thursday this term so please ensure children wear PE kit (black shorts or tracksuit bottoms, and a white t-shirt along with a school hoodie) and trainers on these days.

Please could we ask that all children are provided with a spare set of underwear and a clean change of clothes to keep on their peg along with a packet of wet wipes in case of little accidents. We will inform you of any accidents in their communication books. Over the years our supply of spare clothes has diminished and we do not always have spares that will fit your children unfortunately so a spare set of clothes for them to keep at school is much appreciated.

Please could we ask that all items of clothing, along with re-fillable drinks bottles and lunchboxes, are clearly named. We have removed all plastic cups in class in order to minimise the risk of catching anything unwanted but the children are welcome to re-fill their drinks bottles as much as they need to, and are free to drink whenever they need to throughout the day.

Once your child has settled into the routines of school we will send home reading books. These will be changed on a weekly basis, once they have been read. We encourage you to read with your child as much as possible, and comment in their reading record book. Children love to receive stickers for reading at home so a little comment or a signature in their book ensures they get the praise they deserve. Please could you try to ensure all books are kept in your child's message wallets. Your child will also bring home a library book from our class library on a Friday to share with you. Once again, please ensure these books are in their book bags every Friday ready to be swapped for a new book. The children always love choosing their own books and these are not ones we expect them to be able to read themselves, but ones we hope you are able to enjoy together at home to encourage and develop that real love of reading. Your child will be set up with a Collins e-book account once we begin our reading journey, and details of how to use this will be sent home in due course.

Unfortunately, we do not have space in our cloakroom for rucksacks to be brought into school and stored on pegs. Bookbags are usually big enough to carry all that the children require and can be purchased via the school gateway.

Later in the term we will be running a class cake stall. We kindly ask parents to make cakes which will be sold at the end of the school day. The money raised will help towards paying for the cost of trips throughout the year. Please keep an eye on our weekly newsletter for dates!

Please can we ask that if your child goes home on the school bus, you inform the office via a phonecall or email should your child NOT be on the bus for some reason to avoid any confusion.

If you have any worries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us via your child's message book in their book bags, or via email. If you have written a message in the communication book, please leave the book open in their message wallet for us to see. We will also do the same if we have a message for you. We will always endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.

We look forward to having lots of fun this term!

Mrs C Bournier, Mrs T Brook, Mrs E Betts and 'Team Owls!'