

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back from what we hope was a great summer! We are really looking forward to the year ahead and hope that you are too. Our first topic this year is 'What a Waste!' We are going to focus on what we can do to protect our precious planet and look at the impact we have on our world. As a whole school we will be challenging ourselves to do everything we can to really make a difference. We will start by looking at our school and the local area and then move onto improving our geographical knowledge of the continents and countries that make up our world. We will also be looking at where food comes from and healthy diets.

As a school we are lucky enough to be able to offer an exciting opportunity starting this year - Forest School! We are very privileged to be able to use Chilham Castle grounds for our outdoor learning. More information will follow in a separate Forest School letter.

Throughout this year, homework will be set once a term using a points grid. There will be a variety of activities for the children to choose from and each activity will be assigned a certain amount of points. The activities are designed to enhance and apply the learning that we are doing in the classroom and will hopefully be enjoyable for both adults and children! For each homework grid, there will be a target number of points for the children to aim for. If they complete the majority of the activities and reach the target number points they will receive a certificate.

Our PE sessions this term will be on a Monday afternoon and children will need to have a PE kit in school. We ask that the children bring in their kit and leave it in school for the duration of the term so that they can join in with every PE lesson, particularly if we have to change the day for any reason. PE kits will then be sent home at the end of the term to be washed.

PE kits will need to include:

- T-shirt
- Shorts or joggers (please note leggings are not appropriate PE attire)
- Trainers or plimssoles
- Earrings need to be removed and long hair needs to be tied back

We are passionate about reading and the positive impact it has on children's learning. We therefore ask that you read at home with your child as much as possible. Reading books and reading records will be sent home daily and we would appreciate them being returned daily too so that reading can be monitored and records can be kept up to date.

Thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to come and find us!

Best wishes

*Mr Mankelow and Mrs Fincham*