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Dear Kestrel class parents,

Welcome back to Sheepscombe and a very warm welcome to Kestrels Class! Anticipation is high for the next academic year, with our new classroom and team in place. We are writing to give you some information about the structure and the running of the class this year. We hope this helps but if you have questions feel free to ask. On Thursday, the class teacher will be Mrs Curzon and Miss Dicker will teach from Monday - Friday doing interventions Thursday afternoon. Miss Barnes will be our permanent teaching assistant supporting the children's learning.

The school day starts at 8.45am and this is when lessons will begin. There will be morning tasks for your child to take part in from 8.30. Please arrive promptly to help us with a smooth transition into the school day, we encourage children to come into the classroom independently, saying goodbye at the outside door.

Weekly spellings will be given out on Thursday for your child to learn. Please support them with this over the week at home and help them to identify spelling patterns. There will then be a short spelling test the following Thursday.

All children will be sent home with a school reading book for them to read with an adult or independently at home. Please record these reads in their reading diaries. We will count reads for the children to receive their certificates in assembly and change books on a Friday. Year 2s will have an additional phase book read with in school and at home. If you need to change your book at other times in the week, please let us know.

Children should read at home at least three times a week with an adult, although we would encourage this more frequently, and this should be recorded in their reading diary. In school, your child will read individually or in a small group, with an adult at least once a week, which will be recorded in their reading diary. There are lots of additional opportunities for reading during the school day.

PE will take place on Tuesday afternoon starting the second week of school. Please make sure your child comes to school in the correct kit. This is detailed on the school website. Forest School will be every other Thursday afternoon, starting the second week. Please ensure the children are dressed appropriately for this including long trousers, coats and suitable shoes for all weathers. The class will take a pack lunch with them to Forest School to eat lunch there, so please make sure that they are ready for this on alternate Thursdays. On Friday, there will be garage band sessions for 10 weeks leading up to Christmas. There will also be a shorter PE lesson in which the children should wear regular uniform and trainers.



SUPPORTING
CONNECTING
INFLUENCING





On a daily basis, children should bring their reading diary, a named or easily identifiable water bottle, a coat and snack to class. Can we remind you that we are a nut free school, so please check ingredients before sending food in. Coats should always be brought to school, even if the weather looks dry. You never know if it'll start to drizzle!

As the children are now a year older, we would like to make sure that toys are not brought to school. Please encourage them to leave toys at home, in the car or to return them with the adult dropping them off. Anything that finds its way into the classroom will be kept safe with Miss Dicker or Mrs Curzon until the end of the day. This prevents upset when toys are lost, broken or swapped and stops them becoming a distraction to others. However, if you feel your child needs a special item for emotional support this can be discussed with staff and kept in their drawer or bag.

Please check at home for any reading books sent home last year that may have not made their way back into school. This ensures all children have access to the resources.

Please let us know any necessary information at the start of the school day that will help us to support your child on that day. If you would like to arrange a longer time to chat about your child, please contact the office at admin@sheepscombe.gloucs.sch.uk for an after-school meeting as there is limited time on the door at the beginning of the day. The first parents evenings will be taking place in Week 4 of this term and will allow us to discuss individual children's progress and how they are settling in.

We hope this information is useful and look forward to having a wonderful year in Kestrel Class!

Many thanks,
Miss Dicker, Mrs Curzon and Miss Barnes.

