

Dear Parents and Carers.

Welcome back! It has been a lovely first few days getting to know the new Zebra Class. This newsletter contains important information for the year and expectations for reading, spellings and times tables at home.

**Reading:** In Zebra Class we expect you to hear your child read at home at least 3x weekly for 15 minutes. Ideally, however, this would be for a short period every day to really maximise their fluency and comprehension (understanding of what they have read). In class we do a mixture of whole class reading lessons, small group reading and 1:1 reading throughout the week. As pupils become more fluent readers who show good understanding of what they have read they will be able to choose their own reading books from the school library. Pupils are also able to bring in their own books from home or a library to supplement school books if preferred.

We are lucky to have Pickles the PAT (Pet Assisted Therapy) dog coming in to hear readers weekly from the end of September. Please be assured that as a registered PAT dog Pickles is vaccinated, wormed and flea protected in accordance with their policy. Pickles will be on a lead at all times with his owner and will listen to each pupil for a maximum of 15 minutes before being given a break. After interacting with Pickles pupils will wash or sanitise their hands. Of course, please let us know if your child has an allergy or is afraid of dogs. Please complete this form to give consent for your child to read with Pickles.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdtld1rrHAAGKOVq-D\\_wgPINaTyg9xhJvdpSOtT8zZwhMGdrQ/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdtld1rrHAAGKOVq-D_wgPINaTyg9xhJvdpSOtT8zZwhMGdrQ/viewform?usp=sf_link)

**Spellings:** Weekly spellings will be set on Spelling Shed. It is an interactive and fun way to learn spellings through online games. Please aim for a minimum of 3x weekly for 5 minutes at a time. We will send home login information.

**Times tables:** Times Table Rockstars replaces Numbots for KS2 pupils. Again, please aim for 3x weekly. We will send home login information.

**General notices:** - PE will be on Thursday and Friday - kits can stay in school and just go home at half term.

Water bottle, reading book(s), need to come in to school daily. –

Pencil cases should contain a handwriting pen (blue ink), pencil, ruler, sharpener and rubber. Colouring pencils are optional, but please no colouring pens or gel pens. Ideally everything needs to be names to help them keep track of their things.

Pupils need a healthy morning snack as they no longer receive the free fruit from the government scheme.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information. I hope we have a fun year filled with great progress! Please feel free to contact myself or Mrs Ridgeway via Studybugs or on the gate at the end of the day.

Don't forget - Tuesday 10th September 3:20-4pm we are holding a 'meet the teacher' session where you are welcome to come into the school to say hello and see our classroom.

Best wishes.

Mrs Vanns and Mrs Ridgeway.