

# Hillesley

## PRIMARY SCHOOL



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October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020

Newsletter 5

Dear Parents,

Hopefully a shorter letter this week!

Reminders and notices –

KS2 Reading - children have been given a Reading Record Book. It has been explained to the children that teachers will want to see this record every Wednesday when the children have the opportunity to change their home reading book. Please can you write some comments about your child's reading at home? This is both valuable feedback between home and school, plus it can be a motivator for the children to have a parent or other adult at home listen to them read/discuss the story and so on.

Online Learning Platform – A G Suite learning platform is being set up by an external company, commissioned by the DfE to act in this capacity. They are liaising with our IT providers, Glos County Council IT providers and administration here. Once this set up is complete staff will hopefully receive some training for the use of this facility. We will let you know more when we are up and running. If your child is away from school waiting for a test and not feeling too unwell, we suggest you continue at home with reading and learning times tables, practice telling the time, practice spellings and for KS2 refer to learning objectives on the KIRFS sent home previously. You can still make use of the many online activities and websites that were suggested by the teachers when sending out weekly work in lockdown.

Forest School – KS1 go every Friday afternoon. KS2 are on a rota and dates were provided, along with reminders as to which days:

Y3/4 Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Sept and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> Oct

Y 5/6 Monday 28<sup>th</sup> Sept and Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Oct

On those days your child needs to come to school in appropriate clothing with a waterproof coat and bring appropriate footwear.

So far the children have really enjoyed these sessions.

PE footwear – please note that daps or plimsolls are not suitable for outdoor PE. Your child needs trainers.

Water bottles and drinks – please remember that we do not allow the children to drink squash or flavoured drinks as their frequent, incidental drinks throughout the day. Your child's water bottle should contain water only. You can provide a squash/juice or flavoured drink (not fizzy) for lunch times only (in a separate bottle/carton) to be drunk whilst eating.

Assessment and progress – due to the long period of disruption and lockdown, many children are not at their expected levels with core subjects and the teachers are putting in huge efforts to pinpoint where your child is with maths, reading and writing and then to put in extra support. This assessment process will be ongoing throughout this

term and we should be able to tell you more when we hold our parent/teacher phone conversations in term 2. We will send out information about booking a telephone time of approximately 10 minutes, to have a discussion about your child's progress. If you have any pressing concerns before that, please let us know via e mail using [admin@hillesley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hillesley.gloucs.sch.uk) and the message will be passed on to the relevant teacher. Very urgent matters can be relayed by phone call to the school office.

I am duty bound to remind all parents and school visitors to respect social distancing rules and to not to congregate in front of the school. All visitors to the school continue to be restricted and only very necessary access is permitted, during which face masks are worn and the visitor is kept well away from the children and classroom staff bubbles. Teaching and admin staff also sometimes wear face masks as advised, when they are in contact with many people or working in communal spaces. The children do not question this now and are not at all worried by staff wearing masks when necessary.

As ever, I thank you all for your support and positivity, something that we must maintain for all at this present time.

Regards,

J.Pedley