

14<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

Welcome back, I hope you managed to make the most of a glorious and memorable summer.

It's the beginning of an exciting school year, with lots of upcoming events, projects and clubs. We have the return of Dance, Football and Marvellous Maths clubs along with Archery and Fencing. We will be engaging with the National Primary Engineering project with a view to submitting a competition entry, as well as all the fantastic class enquiry projects produced by the children.

In the summer term we launched the School Phone App and we have had a tremendous take up. We are continuing to move towards paperless communication. All letters and notifications will be via the App after October half term. The App is also the best way to keep yourself informed about all events and activities at school. We will be phasing out the text messaging service over this term and moving to direct messaging through the App. The App is completely free and alerts can be tailored to you and your children.

Please contact the office if you require any help in downloading and setting up the App.

The start of the year is a good time to clarify the homework expectations. We recognise the pressures of modern family life and the high level of work that pupils undertake during the school day. Our expectations have been set to support learning, quality family time and time for pupils to play, recharge and enjoy their own interests.

The homework outlined below is proven to aid pupils' progress. Parents who wish to do more can of course do so at their own undertaking. At primary level homework is at the school's discretion and we do not penalise pupils for not completing it, with the exception of Y6. This is in order to prepare them for high school. However, I am sure you will not be surprised to hear, pupils who consistently miss homework make less progress than those who do.

Homework expectations -

N & R      Daily reading with an adult. Weekly practice of Phonic sounds

Y1 to Y5    Daily reading minimum 10mins/ weekly spelling practice/ weekly times table practice

Y6          Daily reading minimum 10mins/weekly spellings/ weekly SAT practice workbooks

Creative work may be set to design, build and make items linked to the class enquiry topic (This is optional and not an expectation).

There are lots of upcoming opportunities to get involved in supporting the school and the PTA is an excellent way to do this. They raised a record amount last year and have some great new events and activities planned for this year and they always welcome new members. The PTA AGM is on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September starting at 7pm and all are welcome.

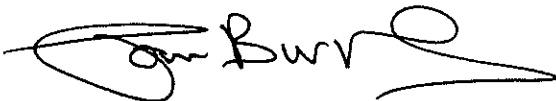
Finally, a huge well done to last year's Y6. The results they achieved were outstanding! They outperformed the national picture for pupils:

Achieving the combined Reading, Writing and Maths at 73% (Nationally it was 64%).

With 83% Reading, 73% Writing and 89% Maths. Well done!!

I look forward to seeing you all during the coming term and I look forward to the fantastic enquiries our children produce.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Burns.

