

Cockwood Primary School
Cofton Hill
Cockwood
EXETER
Devon. EX6 8RB

Headteacher: Mrs Lorraine Curry



ITT Partnership



Tuesday 12th September, 2017

Dear Class 3 Parents,

We are absolutely delighted with how the children in Class 3 have settled, and we are only one week in! The new foundation children have enjoyed making new friends and are getting to know our class routines and are keen to get on with their learning! The Year 1 children have grown in confidence and maturity, and are thoroughly enjoying supporting the new foundation children and trying their hardest to be super role models; well done!

Phonics Workshop

We would like to invite our new foundation parents to a Phonics Workshop on Tuesday 10th October at 3.45 pm in Class 1. This is an informal session that will last approximately half an hour, where you will have the opportunity to see how we teach early phonics, reading and writing in Class 3, and to ask any questions you may have. Miss Butttree is happy to care for your children in the Class 3 classroom during this session.



Parents who have attended in previous years have found this workshop to be extremely useful in helping to understand how to support their child's learning at home. Of course if there are any Year 1 parents who would like to join us they would be most welcome, and we will be able to talk with you about how we take the next steps towards becoming confident independent writers. Please return the reply slip below to indicate whether you will be able to attend this session.

WOW Slips

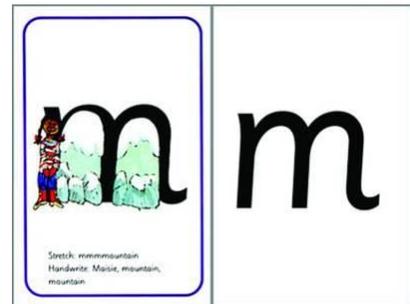
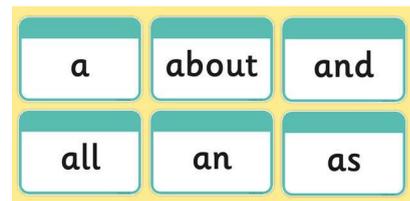
Attached to this letter you will find some 'WOW slips'. These are for you to write on and return to school when you have something you would like to share about your child's learning at home. This might be linked to reading, writing or maths, or it

might be that they have ridden their bike without stabilisers for the first time. It might be that they have shown particular kindness to someone at home, or persevered at something they find tricky. Whatever it is, we love to celebrate your child's successes at home as well as in school, and for our foundation children these WOW slips are added to the learning journey books. There will be more in a wallet on the Class 3 Parents Board by the pegs, so please help yourself if you run out!

Reading

Thank you for already supporting your child with their reading at home, and for writing comments in their record book. These comments are invaluable to us in seeing how your child's learning is being shared and consolidated at home. We appreciate that it is not always easy to fit reading in, but **we cannot emphasise enough the importance of reading every night with your child** if at all possible.

The children in Foundation will soon be bringing home a few things to share with you and to practise what they have been learning in school. This will include the sounds they have been learning to recognise and write, and the rhyme they have learnt to support them with their accurate letter formation. When they are ready they will also receive a small wallet with some words to practice reading at home. These are the key words that appear most frequently in children's early reading, and need to be memorised. More information will be provided on this at the Phonics Workshop, so please do try to come along.



Drop Off and Pick Up



Children in Class 3 should arrive at school via the playground ramp; **please don't come through Class 2**. We have been delighted to see a growing number of our Year 1 children saying goodbye to parents at the gate or on the playground. Please encourage your child to take this step of independence when you feel they (and you!) are ready.

If your child is going to be collected by someone other than yourself, please do let us know beforehand. Keeping your children safe is paramount to us, and we are not able to release children to a different adult if we have not been told beforehand. In this situation we would then need to phone you for confirmation of arrangements, which can be embarrassing for the other adult. If you have an informal arrangement with another parent to share 'pick ups', please could you put this in writing, so that all of the Class 3 team are aware. Thank you for assisting us in this matter.

Snacks and Water Bottles

Before morning break time we have snack time. This is a time when we promote healthy eating and good manners such as please and thank you. Please would you support us in this by providing a named healthy snack for your child each day. This could be fruit, vegetable sticks, dried fruit such as raisins, crackers and cheese, etc. We have a 'no nut' policy, including peanut butter, to protect any children that may have allergies. We are thrilled to see so many named water bottles as we know the importance of keeping the children hydrated throughout the day. If your child does not yet have a water bottle, please would you be kind enough to provide this for them.



COATS AND WELLIES

Finally, as the weather is now beginning to feel more autumnal at times, please could we ask that you ensure your child always has a coat in school. We often take our learning outside, particularly with our foundation children. If you have a pair of wellington boots that no longer fit your child, or if your child has a spare named pair that could be kept in school, we would be most grateful to receive them.

Finally, can we please ask that **all** items of clothing are clearly named, particularly PE kit items. The children have PE every Wednesday and Friday, and most parents find it easiest to bring the kit to school at the start of a half term, and leave it here until the next half term break. Of course, if you wish to take them home more frequently for washing then that is fine.

As always, please feel free to speak with one of the Class 3 team either before school or at the end of the day if you have any questions, concerns or just something important to tell us. As you will appreciate, the start to the day can be extremely busy, so if we are unable to meet with you immediately we will always be happy to arrange another time to speak with you as soon as we are able.

The Class 3 Team