

Shoe laces

If your child has shoes with laces in them, please help them to learn to tie them independently. It is not an easy task, but it is an important life skill and a big boost to self-confidence when children are not having to ask grown ups for help all the time!

Milk

Don't forget, once children are five, if you want them to receive milk in school you will need to register and pay on the Cool Milk website. If you are in receipt of certain benefits then children may still be entitled to receive free milk, but you will need to complete the relevant forms on the Cool Milk website.

ClassDojo

Most of you will be familiar with the ClassDojo system from last year. If you have not yet joined I will be sending you an invite and ask that you set this up. As it will still not be possible for parents to come into school we will continue to use this system as a platform for communication. There is also the facility to upload images, videos and files to your child's portfolio, so it is also one way in which you could share your child's home learning or other achievements with us! ClassDojo is part of our school reward system, and teachers can allocate children points for different learning behaviours that we are trying to encourage, such as engagement (joining in!), perseverance, independence, creativity and resilience or for following class rules.

Reading

It is extremely important that children read regularly at home. Aim for 10 minutes each evening. As with most things if you make it part of your regular routine it is more likely to get done! Please continue to read bedtime stories as well as any reading books children bring home from school. Children will each have their own Reading Diary. Please record in this every time you or another adult listens to your child read. Let us know what they did well and what they needed help with.

We have invested in lots of new phonics reading books this year and our system for changing books has changed. More information about reading at home can be found inside the front cover of your child's Reading Diary.

Children need to bring their reading book and Reading Diary in their book bag every day.

Collecting children from school

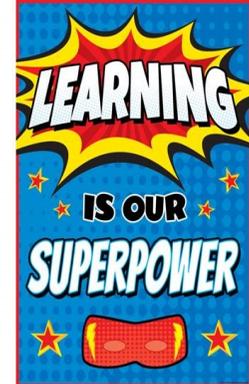
Please let us know if another adult such as a grandparent will be collecting your child from school. This is for safeguarding purposes.

I know there is a lot of information here to take in! If there is something I have missed, however, please ask and we will do our very best to help.

Mrs Mason and Miss Hodgson



**Class 2
Autumn 1
September 2021**



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a lovely summer break and are well rested, ready for the year ahead! Although things may not be quite back to normal yet, we are thankfully well on the way and have lots of fun activities to look forward to.

We aim to help children to feel safe and secure with us and develop the confidence to learn and play in a fun environment. We will, of course, maintain our focus on personal hygiene.

We are well aware that children coming into **Year One** this year were learning from home for a significant amount of their Reception year. Early Years education is a vitally important time in a child's school life, and with this in mind, we will continue to provide play-based learning alongside more formal adult-led learning, to enable all children to be the best that they can be.

Our first topic this year is 'What's on my doorstep?' and we will be finding out all about our local area. We explore our school grounds and go on a local walk to see what different features can be found in Mexborough. We will have a go at designing our ideal playground and consider what would make the Rocket Park even better! In science we will be finding out all about habitats and will be going on a visit to Potteric Carr nature reserve to help us with this. More information on this to follow!

Outdoor clothing and Uniform

As this topic will involve lots of fieldwork we will need to go outside whatever the weather and spend time exploring our outdoor environment, including our gardening plot and the field. **All** children need a pair of **wellies** in school so that they can keep their school shoes clean. They also need a **warm waterproof coat with a hood** every single day. Remember, there is no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong clothes! If you do have any spare wellies that your child has grown out of we would be very grateful for any donations!

English

In English we will be basing our learning around the book Owl Babies . We will sequence and retell the story and base our writing activities around it. We will also be reading other stories including Superworm, The Owl Who was Afraid of the Dark and Wild. In our story time sessions we will share a range of Nick Sharratt Books

Maths

In Maths we will begin with a focus on numbers up to 10 before moving onto addition and subtraction within 20. This year we are introducing Magic Mondays when we will focus on problem solving and investigation through some fun math's activities.

P.E.

Your child will need black or navy shorts and a white T-shirt for PE. Please ensure all your child's clothes are clearly labelled with their name, so that when children do get changed for PE there is more chance of them putting the right clothes back on! In school children need to be able to get dressed and undressed by themselves, so please encourage your child to get dressed by themselves at home. Try to avoid items of clothing for school which they are unable to manage independently eg shirts or blouses with small buttons or tights.

Lunchtimes

Please note that if you choose to provide your child with a packed lunch we are a 'nut free zone'. Take care not to provide products which contain nuts, such as peanut butter or Nutella. Children may have juice as part of their packed lunch, but ensure it is in a container that won't spill if they don't finish it.

Water bottles

It is vital that children are able to access fresh water so that they stay well hydrated during the day. All children require their own, **clearly labelled** water bottle which they will bring home each night for washing. We no longer provide cups in class for children's use.

Please note: children may **only** have **plain water** in their water bottle.