

**The Federation of**

**Bishop Sutton and Stanton Drew Primary Schools**

Tuesday 8th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

A very warm welcome to Ducklings class and we hope you all had a wonderful Summer. It has been a privilege to finally meet all your fantastic children.

Our Early Years Foundation Stage team is made up of Mrs Zoe Milne, Class Teacher on Mondays and Tuesdays and Mrs Alison Sharp, Class Teacher on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. We are supported by our Teaching Assistant, Miss Jennie Benson, who works all week in Ducklings class.

PE will start for Ducklings children on week commencing the 28th September 2020 (when the children stay full-time). Our PE days are **Tuesday** mornings and **Thursday** afternoons. The children should come to school on those days dressed in their school PE kit. This includes a blue t-shirt, navy jogging trousers (or shorts in the Summer), daps or trainers and their school jumper/cardigan.

Forest School takes place on a **Monday** afternoon and will commence on Monday 28th September 2020. Please can the children come to school on forest school days dressed in their old play clothes rather than their school uniform as we like to make the most of our time in the forest. Ideally, they should wear suitable outdoor shoes (old trainers) that can be worn in the classroom in the morning and forest in the afternoon. The children will also need a waterproof coat and a pair of waterproof trousers in a named bag on that day.

We would be grateful if you could ensure that your child has a **named** water bottle in school with them each day. The children can access their water bottles anytime they wish throughout the day and this helps to encourage their independence.

We would also be grateful if you would attach a keyring or badge to your child’s book bag so that they are able to identify it easily when collecting it from our book bag box during the day.

Please can you supply a pair of named wellies to be kept in school as we sometimes use the Forest School for other learning activities during the week

When the children attend school full-time on week commencing the 28th September 2020, you may enter and leave the school site by your choice of the front or rear gate to the school. Please wait to collect your child on the playground adjacent to the Ducklings classroom and the children will then be dismissed to you. It really helps if you give us a wave when you see your child next in line as sometimes it is hard to see parents stood near the back. Thank you.

Until this time, the children will be dismissed by the teacher bringing them up to the rear gate. Please wait at the rear gate where we will come and unlock the gate and dismiss the children to you.

Our focus for this term is to help the children settle happily into school, make friends and enjoy their learning. We will be using the children’s interests in our planning so that they are engaged and enthused by what they are learning. Please find attached an overview of our curriculum for the Autumn term.

In English we will shortly be starting our phonics lessons. Unfortunately in light of the new health and safety restrictions we are having to postpone the phonics workshop we were planning to hold for parents on Wednesday 16th September 2020. In view of this the presentation will be posted onto Tapestry next week for you to watch at home.

As a whole school, we follow the Read, Write, Inc phonics programme and the children will start to bring home the sounds they are learning in class. We will be learning a sound a day and it would be helpful if when you receive the sound sheet in their sound books you could have a go at helping your child to say the sound of the letter and have a go at writing it. If they are not too tired, any attempts at writing will be useful, for example writing the letter in sand, flour, shaving foam will make it fun and if they are willing to have a go with a pencil even better!

Whilst the children are still learning their sounds, the children will choose a ‘sharing’ book from our class to bring home and read with you. This will be a book that you will need to read to them, but will hopefully help to develop their interest and pleasure in reading. If you could please read each day with your child it would make an enormous difference to their reading development.

We have a fantastic Parent Teacher Association (PTA) at our school who help run activities for the children and raise money for the school. New members are always very welcome and if you are interested in finding out more please contact Maria Moon-Park.

We are all looking forward to working in partnership with you and if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards

EYFS Team