



Dear parents,

Happy New Year! I hope that you all had a fun and relaxing Christmas and are ready for 2024. We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you for your generosity at the end of last term. Mrs Pratt, Mrs Lawton and I are so thankful for the lovely cards and gifts we received. Thank you also for welcoming Mrs Reynolds so warmly.

We are really looking forward to the term ahead. The children have worked very hard in their first term and I am sure that they will continue to work with enthusiasm throughout the spring term.

### Curriculum

In Maths this half term, we are looking at addition and subtraction and place value. We are building on the skills that we covered in the Autumn term and trying to apply our strategies with numbers up to 20 and 50. After half term, we will look at measurement. We will be measuring length, height, weight and volume using a variety of resources.

In English, we will start by looking at the story 'The Queen's Knickers' and using this as inspiration for writing letters. We will then move on to instructions. We will link this to our DT topic by making fruit smoothies and we will create a set of instructions on how to make our own. After half term, we will be writing stories with familiar settings like in 'Not Now, Bernard' by David McKee.

In History this term, we are exploring the impact on our lives of famous historical figures, focusing on Queen Elizabeth II. Our Geography topic links in with our work on famous people as we look at the United Kingdom. We will be learning about the four countries that make up the UK and its capital cities. We will also be looking at human and physical features of the UK.

We have other interesting topics in our foundation subjects over the spring term. In Art, we are looking mixing colours. We are setting goals and keeping ourselves healthy in PSHE and we will enjoy some music sessions with Mrs Middlemist who will be teaching the children on Wednesday mornings.

Full curriculum overviews can be found on our school website.

### Reading

All the children are progressing well in their reading skills. We now need your help to make them experts in comprehension. Please ask your child questions about the book they are reading. It is important to read daily with your child and please comment in their reading record. These books will continue to be changed on a Monday and a Thursday if they have been read at home. Please add any additional books that have been read in their reading record as we love to see what the children are choosing to read outside of school.

## Home Learning

Home learning will continue to consist of **daily reading, spellings to practise and phonics**. We will also provide some optional spelling/phonics sheets to help your child if you wish to complete these. Homework will now be set on TEAMs from **week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> January** and more information on this will follow via Parentmail.

## PE

Our PE days remain on Wednesdays and Fridays. Children must wear their school PE kits to school on those days. Please remember that we cannot use tape to cover earrings so these must be removed for PE lessons and that long hair must be tied back.

## Healthy Snacks

The children continue to be provided with a piece of fruit each day and may bring in their own snack in addition to this. Please remember that these need to be healthy snacks, such as a cereal or fruit bar, as we have noticed an increase in other items such as crisps and biscuits being brought in. Many thanks for your support with this.

## Library

Our Library slot remains on Tuesdays, please ensure children have their library books in school on that day.

Please do not hesitate to speak to me on the playground before or after school or email the office at [admin@hatchride.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hatchride.wokingham.sch.uk) with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for all your support so far; it is much appreciated.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Gibb