



Victoria Road Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 1EX

Head Teacher: Mrs W Foster

Telephone: 01285 658550

mail: admin@cirencester-pri.gloucs.sch.uk Website www.cirencesterprimaryschool.co.uk

Wednesday 13th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

It was fantastic to see some of you at our 'Meet the Teacher' meeting yesterday. As we know, some parents couldn't make it and some may want a written record of the information so here are some notes of the content of the meeting.

Staffing

Year 1/2 teaching staff for the 2023-24 academic year is as follows:

- 1/2A - Class teacher is Mrs Parry with teaching assistants Mrs Smith and Mrs Stobbart
- 1/2B - Class teachers are Mrs Bowden (Monday – Wednesday) and Mrs Baggus (Thursday - Friday). Teaching assistants are Mrs Smith and Mr Skipper
- 1/2C - Class teacher is Mrs Clissold with teaching assistant Mrs Park
- All classes will be taught music by Mrs Alvarez and one PE lesson by Mr Archer

Timetables

- All classes will have indoor PE on a Friday with their class teacher.
- 1/2A – Outdoor PE with Mr Archer and music with Mrs Alvarez on a Tuesday afternoon when Mrs Parry has her teacher release time.
- 1/2B and C - Outdoor PE with Mr Archer and music with Mrs Alvarez on a Wednesday afternoon when Mrs Bowden and Mrs Clissold have their teacher release time.
- All children are expected to participate unless injured. Pupils are to wear their PE kits to school on these days. Uniform for PE is as follows: A red or white T-shirt; plain, dark coloured tracksuit bottoms or leggings; school jumper or a plain dark coloured sweatshirt or zip up top and trainers.
- Year 1 and 2 pupils will be taught maths in separate groups – Year 1 pupils with Mrs Parry and Mrs Clissold, Year 2 pupils with Mrs Bowden/Mrs Baggus and Mr Frost.
- There will be an element of continuous provision to support Year 1 pupils to transition from the Early Years curriculum.

Curriculum and events

Year 1/2 Big Questions are as follows:

- Autumn term
 - Would you go down to the Rainforest today?
 - Events: Trip to The Living Rainforest and visit from Roaming Reptiles
- Spring term
 - How was London changed by the great fire? (Including a production)
 - How do plants help us survive?
- Summer term
 - How is Cirencester different to other towns?
 - Includes a History focus on Roman Cirencester and a Geography focus on comparing Cirencester to Varanasi in India.

Phonics and reading

We use the Read Write Inc programme to teach phonics Monday-Thursday for 30 minutes. Pupils' reading fluency is regularly assessed using this scheme and pupils across Y1,2,3 are grouped for these sessions based on these assessments. Your child may, therefore, be in a different classroom with a different teacher for their phonic sessions. When pupils complete the RWI scheme, they will progress onto the Accelerated Reader programme which is used in Key Stage 2. You will receive more information on this programme when your child reaches this point. Please see attached information about home reading books linked to our phonic scheme.



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Attendance

Good attendance (above 95%) is extremely important to ensure that your child reaches their full potential both academically but also socially and in terms of their own personal development. Pupils should not be taken out of school for holidays or non-urgent medical appointments and should attend even if not feeling 100% well unless they have sickness and diarrhoea or another highly contagious condition (see Friday's newsletter for more information). Please ensure that your child attends school punctually so they have a settled, successful start to the day and are able to carry out the important handwriting practice which will happen during register time across the whole school.

Uniform and equipment

We believe that the wearing of a school uniform and a smart appearance fosters a sense of unity, belonging and maintains our high standards. Cirencester Primary School uniform consists of:

- Red sweatshirt or cardigan with embroidered school logo
- White or red polo shirt with logo or plain
- Black or grey skirt, trousers, or shorts
- Red and white checked dress
- Black or grey tights (no leggings) or white/black/grey socks
- Sensible, comfortable outdoor shoes in black (these need to be flat, no crocs or trainers, and please avoid high heels and platforms)
- Earrings- studs only, no hoops please
- No jewellery or nail varnish to be worn
- Long hair should be worn tied back
- No dyed/tinted/coloured hair

Please ensure that your child brings the following items to school every day:

- A water bottle filled with water only
- Their reading diary
- A waterproof coat
- Wellies as we will use the field throughout the winter – pupils can leave these in school (NAMED)
- No toys are to be brought in from home
- Year 1/2 pupils are provided with a snack – if you'd rather bring your own it must be fresh fruit or vegetable based. No cereal bars, fruit winders or packets of crisps, crackers or biscuits please.
- Please ensure that all items of equipment and uniform are named to avoid them getting lost.

Home-school communication

We ask that you support us with homework, uniform and general expectations of our school. It is also important that you contact us if you feel there is something affecting your child's learning. We are keen to work together with you to ensure your child is happy and motivated to work hard at school and home. If you need to contact us the easiest ways are via email:

1/2A – nparry@cirencester-pri.gloucs.sch.uk

1/2B – emilybowden@cirencester-pri.gloucs.sch.uk and ceribaggus@cirencester-pri.gloucs.sch.uk

1/2C – kclissold@cirencester-pri.gloucs.sch.uk

We will do our best to meet with you promptly as well as answer questions but please be aware that after 6pm, emails may not be seen until the following morning.

Newsletters will be sent out electronically every Friday. There is often important information on these so please ensure you read them carefully. Please ensure the office has an up to date email address for you. We also continue to use the online platform Seesaw to post photos, information and home learning activities. This is also a great place for you to share with us photos and news from home; we would particularly love to see photos of any further learning or discovery your child completes at home as well as any achievements from clubs and hobbies which we will then share and celebrate in class.

We look forward to a wonderful year of learning with your child.

Kind regards, The Year 1/2 team