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Headteacher: Mrs Ali Hambley

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Dear Parents/ Carers

It has been so lovely to welcome children back into school this week. Despite the uncertainty and change everyone has encountered over the past few months' rest assured that the children have all settled in brilliantly. Their attitudes and adaptability to our new way of working is a credit to you all. It is lovely to hear engaging conversations, watch important interactions, see new friendships being made, old ones being rekindled and listen to lots of laughter from both the children and staff.

Our work is based around a different Topic either each term or each half term. We usually have one topic during the Autumn Term due to Christmassy activities. Each term/ half term you will be given a Topic Flyer which will contain information on the topic and a class timetable. Additionally, it also includes ideas to support your child's learning at home. The topics are carefully chosen to ensure a broad curriculum and also engage the minds of young learners. We know that children are keen to share their learning from home. If you would add these to Tapestry that would be amazing and then we can share the learning of others in Covid friendly way, unfortunately we have to limit additional learning or toys being brought in from home.

Each week P.E is included in the timetable. P.E days in Hedgehog Class are usually on a Monday and Friday. There may be some weeks where this is changed. If this is the case you will be notified in advance. We are very lucky to have CSF (Community Sports Foundation) PE specialists who deliver P.E on a Friday. **Please ensure that your child attends school in their PE kits on these days.**

The activities in the classroom are set up to reflect different areas of the Curriculum. We assess learning in a variety of ways including Tapestry. We continue Tapestry from previous settings and these have been transferred to Thurlton Primary School. We will add observations in both Reception and Year One. It is really important to us that Parents/ Carers also engage with Tapestry. Please add in learning from home and/ or comment on the learning at school.

We are extremely fortunate to have a fantastic outdoor area which Hedgehog Class also use for their playtime and lunchtime. We encourage children to explore their own interests and fascinations with outdoor learning. At times we will also use the outside for adult directed teaching time. Again you will see evidence of the fun we have outdoors via Tapestry observations.

On a weekly basis we do send a home learning activity home, again these are linked to learning in class. If you are ever unsure, please do ask either myself or Mrs Crisp. The home learning is given out on a Friday and if these can be returned the following Tuesday to ensure that there is sufficient time for staff to provide feedback. Reading, Sentence Books and Spellings are also sent home on a regular basis. It is important for your child's progress that these are completed.

We love to celebrate all of the children's achievements whether it is within school or at home. Different ways that we celebrate include lots of praise, stamps on their stamp cards (when they receive ten, they get to wear a medal for the day), Celebration Assembly and Wow Moments. Wow Moments can be filled in by Parents/ Carers when a child achieves something amazing for example riding their bike without stabilizers for the first time and then these are shared with the whole class and displayed on the 'Wow Moment Board' in the classroom.

To ensure regular communication you will receive a regular newsletter. We also hold regular Parent/ Carers evenings and send out mini reports so that you are informed of your child's progress. We like to work closely with our Parents and Carers to ensure a consistent approach to your child's school journey. If you feel that you need to speak to myself, please ring the office in the morning to book an appointment.

Many thanks for your continued support