Curriculum Sharing

Kites 2016-2017

Learning in Kites

The learning in Kites is predominantly through play. The activities provided for children are structured to help them develop the skills necessary for future learning. Learning takes place both indoors and outdoors so the different learning zones are replicated outdoors so that children have access to all areas of learning.

Reading

This year we are adopting Read Write Inc across the whole school. Once the children can read the first set of Speed Sounds and can read the Ditties, they will start to bring home the Storybooks. Eventually, your child will bring home three books. The first will be the Read Write Inc book that your child has just finished reading in class. The second is a Read Write Inc book that your child has recently read in class. Your child should be able to read both of these books independently and, when you read these with them, it should be a celebration of what your child can read. The third book that will be sent home will be a ‘normal’ picture book that you can read to your child. This will help your child to develop their knowledge of sentences and will help to extend their vocabulary. All three books will be changed after they have completed the book they are reading in class. This means that books will not be changed on the same day each week. Please read these books with your child and then complete their reading journal. This will provide us with information about how they are progressing.

Please see the additional information that explains how you can further support your child at home.

Maths

Children will be set for Maths based on their ability. There will be four groups.

Please see the additional information that explains how you can support your child at home.

Forest School

Forest School takes place on a Wednesday. Children are given the opportunity to explore nature, make a camp fire, climb trees and enjoy the environment. The children will require wellies and clothing that is suitable for wearing outside. The children will go throughout the year, no matter what the weather, and so will need clothes that are suitable for all conditions. Please don’t send them in with brand new clothes as they are likely to get dirty.

Snacks and water

We have snack time every day. Children are allowed one piece of fruit and drink their water. Although there is a variety of fruit and vegetables for the children to choose from, you are welcome to send your child in with a snack (fruit and vegetables only) if you know they are a little fussy!

Children are allowed to bring in water to drink. No squash or fruit juice is allowed.

Houses

Children are divided into houses: Butterflies, Wasps, Ladybirds and Grasshoppers. These are not linked to ability. Children can earn team points for their house and represent their house during sporting events throughout the year.

Medical

If your child has asthma, please ensure that you send a labelled inhaler into school. These will be taken with us on school trips and to Forest School each week so it is incredibly important that we have one in school.

If your child is ill and requires medicine during school time, this should be labelled and given to Mrs Matthews in the school office.

Rewards

Children can earn team points (as mentioned previously). In Kites, if children earn ten team points, they receive a prize.

Each Friday a ‘Star of the Week’ is picked from each class. As Kites do not attend Friday assemblies, they will not be in the weekly photograph that is put on the website.

Homework

Homework is not set in Kites. Instead, we ask that children read at least four times per week. Team points will be used to reward those children that read regularly. We also have challenge booklets which list different activities that you can do with your child. These are not compulsory but children will be rewarded with team points if they complete an activity and provide evidence.

Wow sheets

‘Wow sheets’ are sent home weekly. If your child does something at home that they would like to share with their class and teacher, please record it on a ‘Wow sheet’. Your child can then stand in front of the rest of the class and explain what they have been up to at home and after school.

Communication

The school uses a system called Parentmail. Instead of paper copies of letters being sent home, letters and messages are sent out via email. If you have not yet signed up, please speak to Mrs Matthews in the office.

We also have a school website which has general information about the school as well as a section for Kites. We aim to update the Kites section weekly with pictures and information about what we are learning.

Please can book bags come to school every day as there may sometimes be other information to send home.

Parent help

It is really useful to have parents or grandparents in to listen to children read, to play games with the children as well as helping out on trips. If you are willing to help out please let us know and we can arrange a time.

Look@Me

Look@Me is an assessment system used in Kites which documents the pupils’ progress and shows what their next steps are. Parents have access to this (log in details will be sent out just after October half term) and can comment on the teacher posts. We encourage parents to share Look@Me with their children and to comment regularly.

Pupil Premium

If you are in a position where you have low income, you could be eligible for Pupil Premium. This is funding that is given to the school and allows us to help you pay for school expenses such as school uniform, trips and visits and school dinners. Your child could also be offered tutoring free of charge if we think this would be of benefit to them. If you would like more information, please speak to your child’s class teacher or Mrs Matthews. It is handled discreetly.