 CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL

**BOLTONS**

 ***Church of England Primary School***

**Headteacher: Mrs A Pitcher Bolton Low Houses**

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Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a restful summer break, and you are feeling refreshed and ready for the new school year! I would like to thank you all very much for the lovely gifts I received at the end of the school year, it was very kind and thoughtful of you. I am looking forward to supporting your children with the transition into Key Stage 2. This year our class will consist of 11 children and teaching and learning will be supported by Mrs Winder. Here is a letter explaining general information about homework, spellings, reading and PE lessons. For the other subjects, I have emailed a curriculum overview for this half term to inform you of the things I will be teaching in all the subject areas.

**Reading**

Reading is vital to learning and as they transition into Key Stage 2, it will continue to be incredibly important in all areas of your child’s learning. Your child would benefit from reading for at least 15 minutes every night. I recommend that they read to an adult because their understanding of the story and vocabulary is just as important as reading the words accurately. I would appreciate for the children to bring their reading book and reading records into school every day. If they need to change their books, the children are encouraged to let the teacher know, so that this is done regularly. I listen to them read as much as possible, but I cannot always listen to them all every day, so they need to let me know if they need to change their book. Some days are busier than others, so I may not always get books changed when asked, but I will get them changed as soon as possible!

**Homework and Spellings**

Homework and spellings will be sent home every Friday in their homework books. I would like the children’s homework to be handed back in every Wednesday to allow time for it to be marked and set again. The children are encouraged to keep a copy of their spellings when they get home, so they can continue to practise, and they will be tested on these spellings every Friday. I expect to see written evidence of the children’s spellings, whether this be using the Look, cover, say, write check method already stuck in their books, or a method of their choice. It is really important that the children practise their spellings regularly throughout the week to ensure they are fully embedded, so that they will apply them to their writing.

**PE**

**This term, the children will need their PE kits every Wednesday and Thursday.**

**However, we are very fortunate to have many coaches come in to teach PE, so this can change regularly. Therefore, if possible, we would recommend that the children bring their PE kits in on Monday and take them home with them on Friday. This allows us to be flexible with PE lessons.**

May I remind you to send your child with full PE kit in school for these days. Please make sure they have a pair of trainers, as well as pumps, a white t-shirt, black shorts and a pair or tracksuit bottoms and a spare jumper or tracksuit top.

It is the responsibility of the child to remove all of their jewellery; therefore, I advise that earrings are either removed before attending school in the morning or your child has a container to keep them safe.

**Online Safety**

The internet is a tremendous resource for learning, leisure and interacting with other people, but there are potential risks that we all need to be aware of, to ensure we can help children and young people stay safe online. Therefore, we have regular online safety sessions to help equip them with the tools and skills they need to stay safe as they become more active online. Within school, we have strong firewalls to ensure children only have access to sites and programs that are age appropriate, and we all follow National online safety guidelines. Through conversations at school, we know many children already have parental controls on devices they use at home, but we encourage you to continue conversations about online safety at home too, so they know who to speak to if they come across something that worries them or makes them feel uncomfortable online. If you would like support regarding online safety or adding parental locks, please come and ask or use the following website for further support and advice.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Parental-controls/>

**Snack**

If your child would like to have a piece of fruit or toast at playtime, then they can bring tuck money each week, which will be supervised by the class teacher. It will be 10p for a slice of toast or 20p for a piece of fruit.

If you have any questions about any areas of the curriculum or general enquiries, please don’t hesitate to phone school to talk to me.

Yours sincerely,

Chloe Grierson