

PARROTS



Welcome back to a new year at Phoenix! We hope you are well-rested and ready for a busy term full of exciting learning! This year your teachers will be Miss Downey (Tuesday-Friday) and Miss Leavey (Monday-Tuesday). We will also be joined by Miss Marsh, Miss Caddy and Mrs Addington. We have already had such a lovely first week with you all and can't wait for all of the lessons, trips and adventures we have ahead of us.

This newsletter should outline all you need to know about your first term in Parrots class, but if you need to speak to us, we are always available at the end of the day for a chat during pickup!

Dont forget...

Water Bottles	Every day
Phonics reading books returned to school	Every Monday and Wednesday
PE kits	Every Friday
Doodle homework	Due on a Monday



Term 1 topic

AR reading

Some of you will already be familiar with the programme we use at Phoenix to set your child's reading book/level called AR; from this year, most of our class will now be accessing the programme. Your child will be bringing home an AR book alongside their phonics book to read with you at home. Once they have finished their book, they will take an online quiz at school. We expect the children to get a score of 80% or higher on these quizzes, and encourage them to do well by rewarding children who score 100% with stickers and entries into special draws to win prizes. If they score less than 80%, we will ask your child to go over their book again, and they get a second chance to take the quiz.

Phonics book

As you know, phonics is an extremely important part of your child's learning journey in KS1. Every week in class (on a Monday and a Wednesday), we will be teaching your child a new sound. Whenever a new sound has been introduced to the children in class, a phonics book will be sent home in their bookbags. To support your child's learning, please ask them to read these books to you when they bring them home; this is vital to ensure they continue to make good progress on their reading journey.

UK and the Wider World

This term, we are comparing and contrasting the UK with another country. The country we have selected for your child to study is Kenya, because this is the setting of our class book: Lila and the Secret of Rain. We will be looking at geographical features of both places in our topic lessons, and also learning lots of other fun things about the African country and its culture such as: learning how to say hello, goodbye and other phrases in Swahili, learning how to play the djembe drums in music with Mrs Memott, finding out about the flag of Kenya, studying what animals can be found there and much, much more. We can't wait to explore this

beautiful country with the children and know they are already so excited to start their learning journey!



Doodle Maths

This year, we are trialling a new maths platform as a school. The children will be using the app in class to help them with their learning, but we will also be setting Doodle Homework for them to complete every week. Please encourage them to do this at home; we will be awarding prizes in celebration assembly to those children who engage with the app at home.