



Nansloe Academy & Nursery

Head of School: Mrs A Webb

Dear Parents

Happy New Year and a warm welcome back to a new school term (despite the chilly weather!). It has been lovely to be back in school teaching your children once again. Thank you so much for all the kind get well messages whilst I was off receiving treatment and also for the lovely Christmas gifts sent in for staff. As always, your thoughtfulness was much appreciated.

New Topic 'Winter Wonderland'

Over the next week the children will be beginning our exciting new topic 'Winter Wonderland' which will give us lots of opportunities to focus on the changing seasons and also to compare our own environment with other places around the world. Look out for the half termly topic planner next Friday which will explain what we are doing in more detail and provide some ideas on how you can support your child at home.

Reading

In Phonics we are continuing to follow our new Read Write Inc programme with a focus on securing letter sounds, practising letter formation and developing blending skills.

The children have all been settling into their new Read, Write Inc groups this week and I have been very proud of how well they have adapted to new classrooms and staff and how hard they are working. As part of this new system the children will be allocated books and resources based on the work they are doing in these sessions.

In addition to their library book, twice weekly your child will bring home books and/or activities aimed at consolidating their learning. The new additions to their home school reading pack will be crucial to helping them make the best progress possible so please explore these together. As you are aware, reading is a huge priority at Nansloe and daily reading practice is the greatest help you can give your child during their Reception year. Don't forget to share favourite stories together too!

From next week, please visit the Reading and Phonics section of the Reception class page on the website for some materials/videos which explain the Read Write Inc scheme in more detail and provide support with key elements such as how to pronounce the letter sounds correctly.

Homework

Since my return, homework has resumed, and the children will once again receive weekly short homework tasks in their green or yellow homework books each Friday. Please could you write a short comment to let us know how they got on and return them to school on Monday morning.

Warm Winter clothing

As the weather has now turned so much colder, please feel free to send in hats and mittens/gloves to help keep your child cosy during playtimes. These can be kept in

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Nansloe Academy, Bulwark Road, Helston, Cornwall TR13 8JF

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Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD





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school until half term or returned home daily or weekly as you wish. It would be helpful to us if you could take time each weekend to help your child practice associated key skills such as fastening coats and putting on hats and gloves independently. We will be sure to acknowledge and celebrate their successes!

Parents Evenings

Due to the cancellation of last terms parents' evenings, we will be rearranging these to take place before the February half term. In the meantime, as always, please feel free to drop me a line in the reading record or speak to me on pick up if you have any specific worries or concerns or if I can be of any further help.

Reminders:

Daily requirements- Please could the children bring in their water bottles and book bags every day.

Labelling- Please remember to label all your child's clothes with their name including coats, hats and gloves. Items with names are always quickly returned to the owner, but as you can imagine it is impossible for us to keep track of 31 identical unnamed Nansloe jumpers or PE shorts!

PE Kits- Please could you ensure that named PE kits have been sent back into school following the Christmas holiday as we have been lucky enough to secure some session times with Plymouth Argyle staff who will be working with the children on developing their ball skills. **Please make sure your child has pumps or trainers in their PE kit as some of our PE will take place outside this term.**

Wellies/Spare socks- Please check your child's wellies on the rack under the canopy and make sure that they are still the correct size. We are anticipating being outdoors a lot, despite the weather, in our warm winter fleecy lined waterproofs and tight or leaky wellies are not the most comfortable! **A spare pair of socks to keep in school is also really helpful as splashing can cause overflow!**

Healthy snack/Water bottles- The children are provided with free fruit daily but many of you choose to send in alternative or additional snack for them. Please note that grapes should be cut in half to prevent choking hazards. Please could we request that any snack sent in is a healthy option and does not contain nuts, also that drinks are limited to water- don't forget that this can be naturally flavoured so long as it is still and not fizzy. Water bottles need to be in school every day please as the children use them throughout the day, including at lunchtime.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Heather Foster

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