

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all enjoyed a relaxing summer holiday and would like to welcome you to the autumn term in Year 5! It has been a fabulous week. I have enjoyed meeting all of your children and they have made me very proud with how well they have adapted to the school day again!

I appreciate that this has been a very different year in more ways than one and wish to reassure you that we have worked hard to ensure that the children have a safe, happy and relaxed start to their new school year.

I understand that there is a lot to take on board in these first few weeks and so have outlined some key information for you which we hope will make things clear.

**Willow Staffing:**

**Teacher - Mrs L Kerswell**

**Teaching Assistants:**

- 1) Mrs E Gunstone- In class, all day and every day of the week.
- 2) Mrs V Farmer (HTLA) - Teaching 2.50-3.10 on a Friday and dismissing the children on a Friday. Mrs Gunstone or Mr Mailing will dismiss the children after swimming on a Monday.

<b><i>Year 5 timings of the school day: Year</i></b>	<b>School Start Time</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Eating time (in classroom)</b>	<b>End of the day</b>
5	8.50	10.55-11.15	1.00-1.45	1.00	3.10

**Reading Books:** Reading records and school books will no longer go home but time will be allocated in the school week, for children to read and complete a record of what they have read at home. We ask for your support in ensuring that children read for at least 10-15mins each day. This can be a book from home and should be seen as a chance for children to 'read for pleasure'. All age equivalent reading material will be covered in whole class daily guided reading sessions. Children should not bring their own books to school.

**P.E:** At the moment the arrangements for P.E. are different and children will need to come to school in their PE kit on their allocated days for PE, children will need to ensure that they wear appropriate clothing in respect of the weather conditions so may choose to wear black or grey leggings or track suit bottoms. They will wear their PE T-Shirt and their school jumper. **YOUR CHILD WILL NEED TO COME**

**TO SCHOOL WEARING PE KIT ON FRIDAYS. THEY MUST BRING SWIMMING KIT ON A MONDAY.**

**Planning and Topic information:** A copy of our planning for this Year, will be sent home shortly as will a brief overview of the main topics and subjects we will be covering in Year five during the first part of this Autumn term.

**Homework:**

In these differing times, homework is under review as schools are expected to reduce the amount of things moving between home and school. Over the next few weeks we will be carefully considering the safest methods for homework completion.

**Reminders:**

Can I please remind you that all long hair must be tied up and water bottles for the classroom must contain only water. If children cannot remove earrings on Friday for P.E. then they must be taped up before they come to school.

**Internet Safety:**

I would like to flag up the importance of Internet/Computer/mobile phone safety as the children will be using ICT a great deal in their research this year. If you wish to find out more about this, these websites may be useful:  
<http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk> or <http://ceop.police.uk/> We also ask for your support in knowing which APPS and facilities your child uses on their mobile phone (if relevant) and to remind them about making appropriate and safe comments via TicToc/ WhatsApp channels should they use these.

**Walking home letters:**

Since we had so many letters/notes/emails/verbal consents for children to walk home alone, the office have now sent home an official permission slip, which must be signed and will be kept on record in the office. This is to ensure we are keeping your children safe.

It has been lovely to say hello to some of you at school pick up and I look forward to working with you and your children this year.

Mrs LM Kerswell