

## Erpingham C of E Primary School

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Executive Headteacher: John Neenan

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*'Let us love one another, for love comes from God' 1 John ch 4 vs 11*

**Our School Values: Love, Courage, Friendship & Respect**

7th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to a new school year in Blackbirds Class. It is really exciting to be starting a new school year and to be welcoming new Blackbirds in reception along with experienced Blackbirds in year one.

Here are a few reminders about things you need to know in Blackbirds Class:

### **Staff**

Mrs Barry will be the class teacher on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. On Tuesdays, Mrs Whitham and Mrs Forton take the class in the morning, and it is Forest School in the afternoon. Mrs Witham is our Teaching Assistant Monday - Thursday. Miss Moore is our TA on Fridays. On Friday afternoons, Mrs Rowe works alongside Miss Moore.

### **PE**

PE will be on a Friday afternoon. Mrs Rowe, one of our HLTAs and PE lead will be taking the class for PE. The children need to wear their PE clothes to school for the day. This saves lots of time and lost clothing as we won't need to get changed in school.

### **Outdoor Clothes**

All of the children need waterproof clothing (trousers and a jacket, or a set of overalls) and wellies in school. They will need these for Forest School on a Tuesday, but also for playtimes and other outdoor activities. **Please make sure these stay in school**, or, if they come home, that they are back in school the next day.



## **Forest School**

Sessions for Blackbirds are on Tuesday afternoons. The children will need to come into school in old clothes on a Tuesday, that are suitable for Forest School (legs and arms covered). They do not need to come into school in their waterproofs and boots, as these should be in school already.

## **Tapestry**

Each family should have access to a tapestry login, where you will be able to access photos of your child's work in school and important messages. Please see any of the staff if there are any problems with accessing Tapestry. It is important to check it regularly, as you will receive regular updates on it, including what we are learning each week (important if you are flexi-schooling) and a recap at the end of each week, with extra photos of what the children have been doing. One of the really good things about tapestry is that you can upload photos of your own. This means that children can share their achievements, interests and news with the class. We don't do Show and Tell in Blackbirds, instead the children can show photos whenever they want. Children have loved sharing news of new pets, riding bikes, lego models, interesting visits and much more in this way.

## **Phonics and Books**

We will all be starting phonics from Monday 11th September. The year one children will start to bring home books from that week. They will have one book a week, which will come home on the same day each week. Reception children will bring home reading books after a few weeks, however, they may start bringing home a packet with a sound game in it a little sooner. When they start bringing home reading books, all the children will also be bringing home a reading for pleasure book to share with you. The children will all be reading with an adult several times in the week. Please could they have their reading books and reading record in school every day. They will need to keep these in either a book bag, or a plastic wallet that they can put in the classroom.

Look out for more information about reading and phonics as we go through the term.

We hope you all had a good summer break. If you ever have any questions, problems or things you want to ask about, please ask any of us in the staff team. We look forward to a really fun and learning-packed term.

Thank you,

*Mrs R Barry*

