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Executive Headteacher: Mrs  
Victoria Woods

## **Eagles Class Newsletter – Summer Term 1 2024**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a peaceful Easter. We were so excited to welcome your children back for Summer Term 1. We are delighted that Miss Cooper, a trainee teacher from Oxford Brookes, is re-joining Eagles for five weeks this term following her successful first placement with the class during the Autumn Term. She will be working alongside Mrs Clayton, Miss O'Neill and myself, providing regular daily support to the children.

There are lots of amazing things planned for Eagles' this term – remember to keep an eye on our school website and social media for photos and updates.

### **Curriculum – 'Oh, we do like to be beside the seaside!'**

Eagles' main project text is 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' by Rhonda and David Armitage. In this classic tale, the lighthouse keeper, Mr Grinling and his wife have to devise ways to stop the greedy seagulls from stealing the lighthouse keeper's delicious lunch that Mrs Grinling sends across the rope from their white cottage to his lighthouse each day. Seaside settings, interesting characters and problem solving feature in the story.

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Through their English writing, the children will be exploring postcard, diary and story writing. Then with Mrs Di Giorno, on a Wednesday they will investigate lighthouses, lighthouse keepers, how they both changed over time. Their daily class story time, sharing both fiction and non-fiction books, will enable the class to encounter different lighthouse, seagull and seaside books.

In Science, driven by the key question “Which are the best materials to use for a lunch box?” They will explore the difference between a material and an object, identify different materials and their properties and sort and classify materials and objects using their properties. To conclude they will identify the pros and cons of different lunch box materials.

Their DT builds upon their science knowledge of materials. After evaluating Mrs Grinling’s basket and other lunch containers, the children will design a lunch container that is weather, bird and pulley proof. They will test their prototypes, evaluate them before improving and then retesting them.

In Art, they will be sketching birds from source materials and representing feathers using a range of mark making materials. They will fold, tear, crumple and twist paper to manipulate it towards 3d forms. After critiquing sculptures inspired by ‘birds’, they will use paper, card and wire to create their own sea bird sculptures. These will form a class flock of birds that they will evaluate alongside their individual pieces.

### **Class rewards**

This term, the class will be continuing to work together to collect more ‘stars in the jar’ in recognition of their achievements.

30 stars	40 stars	50 stars	60 stars
Extra Busy Time	Watching a children’s TV episode of our choice.	Non-school uniform day	Class party

We also have our whole school house point rewards. Children will be praised for demonstrating our vision in action and working hard on their learning journey.

### **Reading**

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We want to continue creating a culture that values and supports reading for pleasure and we will commit to the following:

- **adults reading aloud regularly**
- **informal book talk, including recommendations from peers and adults**
- **encouraging library use, including the local public library**
- **providing time to read**
- **sociable reading environments**

We recommend that the children read regularly at home as it is a great way to cover a wide range of authors and genres. It will also allow them to understand and use a wide range of vocabulary. Each child will bring home, provided by their phonics teacher, a fully decodable reading book - at a developmental appropriate level for them. Additionally, they will have a library book which they have selected themselves. They should aim to read on at least four occasions in any one week for a minimum of 10-15 minutes at a time. **We ask for you to listen to your child read as much as possible during the week to support their reading progression.** Please record (or encourage them to record) their reading activity in their reading record book. We guarantee regular reading will make a difference to their progress across the curriculum.

### **Homework**

Our homework enables all pupils to make sure they have the chance to practise and recall phonetically appropriate spelling words, consolidate number knowledge skills, to read regularly and also complete a weekly piece linked to our project. This term's 'Oh we do like to be beside the seaside' tic-tac-toe sheet has Key Text, DT, Art and Science activities to choose from. The Eagles' class webpage has web links and resources to help, plus more home learning ideas. We can't wait to see what the children create and bring in to share with the class. Our homework books will be sent home every **Thursday** and should be returned to school on the following **Tuesday**. Good pieces of homework and great effort are rewarded through the school reward systems.

### **PE Kit**

All children should have indoor and outdoor kit e.g. shorts and school t-shirt for indoors and joggers, sweatshirt and trainers for outdoor sessions. **PE kits should**  
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**be brought into school every Monday and may be taken home on a Friday to be washed for the following week.** This term the children will be doing ball skills on a Wednesday and Athletics – jumping on alternate Friday's with Commando Joes every other Friday.

Please remember that pupils are not permitted to take part in PE lessons whilst wearing earrings (unless they have been pierced within the last six weeks in which case they are permitted to tape them up until six weeks has passed).

**Staff are not permitted to assist pupils with the removal or insertion of earrings.** If pupils are not able to manage earrings independently, they should not wear them to school on days when PE is timetabled to take place but remove them, with assistance, at home.

### **Outdoor Play and Learning**

There is an opportunity to play on the field every day. The grass can be wet and children need to have a pair of wellington boots to use so that their school shoes remain dry and clean. Additionally, Eagles are encouraged to have fun in our outside classroom throughout the year, even when the weather is wet and cold, so they do need a warm waterproof coat and waterproof trousers in school. Please name these and your child's welly boots - it can be hard to reunite lost clothing and equipment to the right child if it is not labelled. As the weather gets warmer, please do remember to apply sun cream to your child before school and provide them with a named summer hat to wear when they go outside.

### **Reminders**

- **Water Bottles** – please make sure children bring a named water bottle with them every day (separate from any drink in their lunch box) as this allows them to access water as and when they require it. To improve the oral health of children, only water is permitted in class. If your child brings in a bottle filled with something other than water, we will provide them with a cup so that they can access water during the day.
- **Snacks** – Fruit is provided to Eagles' children as a daily mid-morning snack but they may also bring in their own **healthy snack**. Suitable

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choices include fruit, cheese, yogurt and vegetable sticks. Do let us know if your child has any food allergies or intolerances.

- **Absence and sickness** – please let the office know if your child is not attending because they are ill. Also please note that Health Protection Agency guidance states that children should not return to school for 48 hours after the last episode of either sickness or diarrhoea.

### **Contact**

Should you need to contact me about any matters arising, you may email me direct using the following address: [j.jennings@wroxtonprimary.co.uk](mailto:j.jennings@wroxtonprimary.co.uk)

Please be aware that any messages sent may not be seen until later in the school day or after school as I may be busy with classroom duties and teaching earlier in the day. In all cases I will endeavour to reply to you within 2 working days. Obviously if the matter is more urgent, for example about attendance or changes to the routine of collecting your child, then you should contact the school office.

We look forward to working with you again this term and helping your children achieve our school motto; Care, Share, Learn and Worship Together.

Kind regards,

Julie Jennings

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