

Sempringham 23 – Autumn term Newsletter

Welcome to Sempringham! We hope you have all had a lovely summer and are ready and raring to go for the new school year. We are excited to meet you all and get stuck into some exciting learning.

The school day will be the same as last year. The gates will open at 8:40 and registration will start at 8:45 (we will be starting lessons at 8:45 so punctuality is vitally important.) At home time the gates will open at 3:10 and the children will be dismissed at 3:15. Year 5 children will be able to free walk once you have completed a free walker form. If anyone different is collecting your child, please let us know (via dojo in plenty of time – if it is last minute please ring and let the office know.)

Water bottles will be kept in the classroom and your child can bring a sensible pencil case if they wish however, we will provide all the resource they need in the classroom. Correct uniform (including school shoes) and PE are important so please refer to the policy if you aren't sure what your child needs.

Our topic this term in Geography is Rivers. We will be investigating how rivers are formed, the water cycle, looking at famous rivers and why they are important. We are also hoping to plan a school trip linked to rivers in the first term so please watch this space for more information. In Science we will be looking at states of matter and the difference between solids, liquids and gases. In Design and Technology we will be investigating bridges, looking at famous bridges and designing and making model bridges. Our focus text in English is Wind in the Willows – we will be using this text to inspire narrative work.

Homework

Homework will be given out weekly, on a Friday, and should be handed in the following Thursday. There will be two pieces of homework (English and Maths) as well as spellings. Spelling tests will take part on a Friday. If your child is struggling with their homework, please let us know as soon as possible so we can help. Dojos will be given out for homework and spellings.

Reading

Reading is a key part of your child's learning. We are continuing to use the AR reading system where the children will take a test once they have completed their book. Home books can be read as long as they are in the correct level for your child (please ask us if you aren't sure.) We will be continuing to use reading diaries so we can make sure your child is reading all the time. Please sign your child's reading diary when they have read (this doesn't always need to be to you – independent reading is also fine.) We expect your child to read **at least 3 times a week at home** – about 20-30 minutes per time is acceptable. Your child will receive dojo points for reading at home and completed AR tests.

PE

PE lessons will take place on a Tuesday afternoon and the children will go swimming on a Friday during the first term. Payments and consent for swimming should already be on ParentMail. If you are struggling with payment then please contact Mrs Hutchinson. Please ensure the children have the correct PE kit – white t-shirt, navy/black shorts and trainers or pumps. PE kits should be brought into school and left in lockers until half term. Earrings should be removed for PE and long hair should be tided back.

Swimming lessons will take place on a Friday morning starting on Friday 15th September. The children and Sempringham staff will travel via coach to Geoff Moulder Leisure Complex for lessons. A detailed letter will be posted on dojo. Children will get changed at the pool and must wear full school uniform.

Dojo

The class dojo page is all set up and working and is the best way to contact the staff and find out information. If you do need to contact the school in an emergency it is better to contact the office as we can't always check dojo messages when we are teaching. We will check it regularly however if you send a message in the evening or at weekends we may not get back to you until the next working day. Please note that Miss Beck works on a Monday and Tuesday and Mrs Done works on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday so please check who's working when sending messages.

We are looking forward to seeing you all and hearing about your child's summer.

Kind regards,

Mrs Done, Miss Beck, Miss Bateman and Mrs Dunbavand