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11<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents,

To help us all settle quickly into the new school year, we thought we would take this opportunity to remind you of a few routine matters that may have been forgotten over the summer.

### **Teaching Staff**

Mrs Peach will be teaching in Tamarind Class, with the exception of Thursdays, when Mrs Glasspool will be the class teacher. This is to enable Mrs Peach to carry out her role of SENCO. Tamarind class will be supported each day by Miss Ekless. In Eucalyptus Class Mr Geraghty will be the class teacher, supported by Mrs Amos. Miss Batchelor will also be in Eucalyptus this year as she completes her SCITT teacher training qualification. Miss Batchelor will assume a proportion of teaching duties as the year progresses under the supervision of Mr Geraghty.

### **PE kits and swimming**

Our regular swimming sessions are on Monday mornings and our PE lessons are on a Wednesday afternoon. Please check that all your child's belongings are named and, if you would like them to be able to wear goggles for swimming and have not yet sent in a permission letter, please fill in the short slip at the end of this letter and return it to your child's class teacher. Once received, this will serve as permission for the whole of Year 5. In PE we will begin with basic ball skills and then start learning the rules of netball. Please make sure children have suitable clothes for indoors and outdoors, including trainers and a long sleeve outer layer for colder weather. Earrings will need to be removed or covered for PE but must be removed for swimming.

### **Homework and spellings**

Each Thursday we will set Maths and English homework. Maths tasks will relate to the work in school and the English task with alternative between spellings or grammar. Homework can be completed at home or in homework club (which runs on Fridays and Mondays) but must be returned by the following Tuesday. Maths tasks and spellings practice should be completed in the homework book. For SPAG the children have been provided with a work book. Spellings will be set as sentences and tested in the subsequent two weeks

### **Reading logs and reading books**

The children have been reminded that they should be reading at home for 10 – 15 minutes every day and recording their reading in their reading logs. We do not expect children to read aloud to an adult every day, but we have asked them to do this at least once a week. Please sign your child's reading log when they have read to you. The minimum expectation is that children will have recorded at least 5 reading sessions and there will be at least one adult signature each week. Their reading logs will be checked every Tuesday but children should ensure they have their reading book and log in school every day. They will have an opportunity to change their library books during their visit to the school library every Friday morning, where they will be encouraged to experience a range of genre and authors.

### **Autumn term topics**

Our main topic this term is World War II and in particular the impact of the war on families, including evacuation and the changing roles of women. We will be linking our history with literacy, looking at a range of stories, reports and poems relating to that era. The children will also create World War II inspired artwork and learn about food in wartime during Design and Technology. Alongside this, we will learn about forces, gravity and the Earth in space.

### **Trips**

As part of our World War II topic we are planning a new trip for the year group. We will send home further details in due course.

### **Parent Helpers**

We welcome parents into the school to support children's learning during the afternoons. If you would like to participate, please let your child's class teacher know. We would also appreciate any local support with delivering our curriculum, and would be interested in discussing opportunities for guest speakers and visitors.

We hope that you and your child have had a relaxing summer break and are looking forward to the Year 5 curriculum. Many thanks in anticipation of your help and support during the forthcoming year.

The Year 5 Team

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### **Swimming Goggles**

I hereby give permission for my child to wear goggles during swimming lessons.

Child's name.....

Child's class.....

Parent/carer.....

Date.....