

Swavesey Primary School

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Dear Parents of children in Hedgehogs,

We hope that you have had a wonderful summer break and enjoyed some quality family time. The school year has started positively, and it has been wonderful seeing the children settle into Hedgehogs. They have started the year with great enthusiasm and a positive attitude towards new experiences and their learning. It has been a pleasure to see, and they should be proud of themselves.

The Autumn term is always a busy and exciting time. We have lots of wonderful events and activities planned, including book fairs, interactive curriculum days and, of course, our annual Christmas celebrations. Our priority is for your child to learn whilst having fun, exploring new ideas and developing their skills alongside their friends.

This term, our topic is 'Let's Go on a Journey'. Through this exciting unit, the children will learn about transport over time and explore different places around our world. We will make links across the curriculum and encourage the children to develop their curiosity about the past, the present and the wider world. Further information about our curriculum and learning this term can be found in the Parent Information Session slides, which are available on the school website. Please see the Hedgehogs slides for the relevant information.

Reading is a key priority throughout the school. Daily reading opportunities will support children in developing fluency, expression and comprehension skills. Each child will bring a reading book home weekly, and we ask that these books are returned to school every **Monday** so that they can be changed and monitored. We strongly encourage you to read with your child every day, even if only for a short period. Reading regularly with an adult has a significant impact on children's confidence, vocabulary development and overall progress in learning.

Children in Year 1 will also take part in our new **Flooded Reading** programme three times each week. During these sessions, children will work in small groups to develop decoding, fluency and comprehension skills with a range of adults from across the school. This will provide additional opportunities to build confidence and foster a love of reading.

Parents will still have access to Tapestry whilst children are in Hedgehogs. This will be used to share information about any learning that could be practised at home. Hedgehogs children will also have a Purple Mash login. This will be used for Computing lessons in school. The children will also bring a login card home so they can explore Purple Mash. There will be no homework set, or information shared, using this platform. In addition, children will receive a termly homework sheet linked to our unit of work.



This provides a range of optional activities for children to complete and share with their classmates throughout the term. Any completed work can be brought into school to share or uploaded to Tapestry.

Our Year 1 and 2 classes are:

- **Hedgehogs** – Miss Lawton
- **Otters** – Mrs Seaden and Mrs Faiers
- **Foxes** – Mrs Cowburn and Mrs Kellam
- **Squirrels** – Miss Butler

PE sessions will take place on the following days:

- **Hedgehogs** – Thursday and Friday

Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE days. Earrings should be removed and long hair should be tied back.

A few additional reminders:

- Please send your child to school each day with a named water bottle containing water only.
- Fruit is provided for all children in Key Stage 1, although children may also bring an additional healthy snack of fruit or vegetables.
- Please do not send personal items such as toys, fidget toys or personal stationery into school.
- We recommend that children bring a waterproof coat every day so that they are prepared for the changing weather.
- Please could children in Hedgehogs have a pair of wellies in school so they can continue to use our outside provision.

We are looking forward to the term ahead and to working with your child as they continue on their educational journey. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

Miss Lawton and the Hedgehogs Team

