Dear parent/ carer April 2021

Welcome back! It has been great having your child back at school following the Easter holidays, I hope you all an enjoyable break. The children have all returned with a positive attitude and are eager to learn, it is wonderful seeing so many smiling faces walk into the classroom every day.

Topic

Our Topic this term is Knights and Castles. Our work in this area will be closely linked to history and geography aspects, looking at similarities and differences between our own lives and those of people who lived long ago. We will be focusing on the stories The Very Last Castle, The Knight who wouldn't fight and Cinderella. In the last week of term we will be hosting our own EYFS Royal Ball, your child can come to school in their most royal outfit ready to dance the day away. Your child will receive their invitation to the ball closer to the time.

Belongings

Please send your child in with the minimal amount of belongings as possible. The only necessary belongings are water bottle, fruit or vegetable snack, sun hat, spare clothes if prone to toilet accidents and a lunch box, unless they have school dinner. Your child should only be bringing one bag into school every day, this can be either a rucksack or their book bag. These bags will be stored on their peg in our cloakroom. Now that the weather is beginning to warm up, please remember to apply sun cream to your child before school and pack a spare bottle in your child's book bag. Your child will have to apply the sun cream themselves at school so please help your child gain independence in this by letting them practice at home.

PE Kit

PE during this term is timetabled for Friday morning. Your child's kit needs to be in school every day just in case these sessions change for any reason. Please ensure that they have navy blue shorts, t-shirt, trainers and appropriate warm clothing for going outside and that all items are clearly named. Tiddlers do not need to bring a PE kit to school as their PE will

mostly be completed in our outdoor area. PE kits will be sent home on a Friday so that the cloakrooms can be thoroughly cleaned.

Water bottles and snacks

Please remember to send your child in with a water bottle. If their bottles need refilling, this will be done by an adult with clean hands/ wearing gloves. All water bottles are kept in a tray for the children to access whenever they need to. Your child is welcome to bring a healthy snack to school which should be stored in their book bags, a fruit snack will also be provided by the school for any children who want it. If your child is registered with Cool Milk they will receive their carton of milk at snack time, in cases where the child does not want to drink their milk, the carton will be given to the child at the end of the day to take home. Please check with your child if they would still like milk at school, we currently have many children refusing their milk during snack time.

Tapestry

We aim to upload regular observations of any wow moments or achievements your child has at school. It is a great way for you to see what your child has been doing at school all day and is a great tool for you to start conversations after school, you might get a better answer than 'I can't remember what I did'. Please contribute to your child's tapestry observations, as the experiences your child has at home are invaluable to helping us know more about their achievements and successes. They are really useful for identifying learning that we may not have seen in school.

Reading

Please continue to read at home with your child each day, and record this in their reading record books. We aim to read with all of the Reception children on Thursdays and swap their books, however, it is not always possible to read with all of the children in a single day so some books will be swapped on Fridays. If you would like your child to have a new book before Thursday then please let me know at pick up or drop off and I will endeavour to swap their books.

Forest School

We are going to begin Forest School in Week 3 of this term, this will then continue until the summer holidays. We will be going to Forest School on Wednesday afternoons so please make sure your child brings appropriate clothing to wear on this day. Ideal clothing would be anything waterproof or old clothes that you don't mind getting muddy. Children must have wellington boots. An email will be sent to confirm our start date and any other necessary information within the next week.

Other information:

- Mrs Blake will be teaching every Monday afternoon.
- Children should have a pair of wellington boots that can be kept at school on our welly rack.
- Our school day starts at 8:40 and ends at 3:10.
- Please ensure all of your child's uniform is clearly labelled.