



## ST CHAD'S PATCHWAY CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to a new year at school! I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself – Mrs Medway, and inform you about the teaching and learning that will take place, as well as some of the routines for Year 4.

### **Topic**

Each term your child will be immersed in a topic which will be integrated and linked across the curriculum. The topic for autumn is 'Invasion'. You can see the areas and skills they will be learning on the topic web attached. I would be very grateful if you could support your child's learning by encouraging them to do a small amount of research on our topic. Any books, news articles, artefacts, pictures, etc. that they can bring in and share with the class will be very helpful and enhance our classroom displays.

### **School uniform and PE kit**

For the first term, PE will be on a Tuesday and Friday, however, your child should have their PE kit available every day. Your child will need a kit bag containing: T-shirt, shorts, socks, trainers, and a tracksuit for colder weather (all of which should be labelled with their name). We will be using the field for games, so please bear in mind that the children may get muddy. A light, waterproof coat might also be handy.

### **Swimming**

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October year 4 children will begin swimming lessons in the afternoon. This will replace the Tuesday PE session. Children need to bring swimming costumes/trunks, towel and goggles if required.

Please may we remind you that it is school policy that children wear the recommended school uniform as identified on our website (available at <http://www.stchadsprimaryschool.co.uk/>). In addition, children are allowed to wear a watch and one pair of stud ear-rings, which are both to be removed during PE sessions. Please ensure that children are able to remove their own ear-rings as staff are not allowed to do this. Please note that nail varnish and jewellery other than ear-rings is not allowed.



### Homework

Children should have a homework folder or bag in which to keep their homework book and reading books. Homework will involve: learning and applying spellings; reading a school, home or library book, and various other tasks linked to weekly learning and our topic. Homework will be set on a Friday and will be due in by the following Thursday. Children will be encouraged to conduct research and bring items in from home.

As reading is a vital part of the educational experience, I suggest that your child reads at home at least four times a week. This can be both individually and reading aloud to an adult; I ask that parents sign their child's reading record when they have read at home. In order to encourage reading at home, I have introduced a reading challenge, where children can collect rewards for moving up the reading beanstalk each term. Please see your child's reading record for more details on the reading challenge. Please ensure that your child has their reading book and reading diary in school every day.

### ICA

Each class has an "I Can Achieve" (ICA) folder. Please remind your child to let us know if they achieve anything outside of school so that a note can be made on their page in the folder and recognition in assembly. This could be as part of a club or in swimming lessons for example.

I am looking forward to meeting and working with as many of you as possible over the next year. There are many activities that you could help with, all of which benefit the children tremendously: listening to children read, helping learn and test spellings and group work with the children. If you are able to help either on a regular basis or every now and again, please let me know. You will need a recent DBS check.

**Please remember that it is important to keep the office up to date with any changes in your child's medical needs.**

I hope to see you all at the **next parents' evening (22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> October)** and I am looking forward to getting to know and teaching your child.

Thank you,

Mrs Medway



