

Welcome to Sun Class Year 2009-10!

My name is Mrs. Sherry Mansfield. My Teaching Assistant is Mrs. Helen West. We are looking forward to an exciting year of learning with loads of interesting and fun things to do. But first, there are some 'formalities' I need to let you know of.

Please label **everything** your child brings to school, i.e., book bag, PE kit, drinks bottle, and all clothing right down to their socks!

I explain to the children that it is important, as well as, **their** responsibility to bring their book bags to school **everyday**. They also need to remember to keep the books they bring home in their bags when they aren't being read so they won't be lost. This also includes homework.

P.E. is on Monday and Friday. Please ensure your child has the necessary PE kit complete with properly fitted plimsols.

Library is on Monday. Be sure to bring library books back on this day.

Spelling words go home each Friday with a test on the following Friday.

Please check your child's book bag **daily** for important letters that may have come home.

Class Rules:

Be kind
Be safe
Be sensible
Be smart
Ask your child about our 'sun and cloud'. Ask your child to explain our rules.

Classroom Water bottles are to go home and come back daily. Water only, please.

Homework

Your child will sometimes bring home a homework activity. The activity will often consolidate what we are learning in school. The due date will be on the homework. We hope that both you and your child will have fun completing these projects together!

Reading at home:

You will find that your child will be bringing home a library book and a reading book.

Library books are changed weekly on Monday. These books are chosen by your child and are to be shared at home.

Reading Books are banded so that each band consists of books at the same reading level. I will assess your child to see which reading band they should be working within and send appropriate books home. *Please bear in mind that books sent home may not always be the same colour or stage within in a scheme because of the way they are banded.*

These books are to be read by your child with your encouragement. There are many ideas you can use with a reading book besides just reading it. If you feel your child has completed their reading book and is ready for a new one, please sign the record book and remind them to put their book and reading record into the book box just inside the classroom.

Sometimes your child's book may be sent home again, if we feel they need to work on it further. It is important that your child is gaining meaning from the text and can read the words out of context, so please spend time playing word games using the book and encouraging your child to answer questions about the text.

Please use the reading record to make a comment on your child's reading progress. We expect children to change their books at least two -three times per week. Mrs West and I will also make comments in the records where appropriate. PLEASE ensure your child's book and record is in their book bag EVERY DAY.

Story tapes for YEAR 1

Each Friday, your child will bring home a story tape or CD and accompanying book. Please take the opportunity to share these with your child over the weekend and return them to school on the Monday.

I appreciate that this is a lot to take in, but it soon becomes routine as the year progresses! If you have any questions please do not hesitate to come and ask me!

Thank you,

Mrs Mansfield