



NEW STREET, BRET FORTON  
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*'Learning at its heart'*

## Dolphin Class – Learning Overview for Parents – Autumn 2020

Monday 7th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Bretforton Village School after what has been a very long break for most of us. We are delighted to welcome the children back to our class and look forward to lots of exciting learning this term in Dolphin class. This term, our topic will be 'Mexico'. The children will take part in a range of different art, geography, music and English-based activities to explore this country and its culture. We also have a fun science topic planned on 'Forces', during which we will work together to create some alternative marble runs to develop our knowledge and understanding of friction. In addition to our usual learning, we will also spend lots of time teaching and reinforcing how the children can stay safe whilst in school, through regular handwashing, using tissues to 'catch it, bin it, kill it' and giving people space. Please reinforce this at home and let us know if you or your child have any concerns or worries about being back in school.

### Our School Week

Your child's teachers for this term will be Mrs Darby and Mrs Lee, assisted by Miss Haines. Mrs Lee will teach the class on Mondays and Fridays. Mrs Darby will teach the class on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. On Tuesday mornings, the children will have a PE session with a sports coach. While the weather continues to be warm, these sessions will be held outside - please make sure your child has their full kit with them. These sessions will begin in the second week of term. The children will have a further PE session on a Friday afternoon with Mrs Lee.

### Forest School

Dolphin class will not have a Forest School session this term.

### Reading Books

The children will be given reading books over the next few days. Please could you support us by reading with your child as often as possible, ideally daily. Please sign your child's home reading record each time your child reads at home, adding the page number so that we know where to pick up from when your child is reading in school. Please talk to your child about what they have read so they can show their understanding of the text. In school, we will teach the strategies that enable your child to read for meaning but the more your child practises these skills out of school, the more confident they will become. One of the key reading skills this term is developing fluency. The best way to achieve this is by reading and rereading books, so if your child has finished their book and has not had it changed, please take the opportunity to listen to them reread it.

### Homework

The children will have spellings and maths facts to learn each week, and these will be tested every Monday. Spellings and maths tests will be recorded in books which will be sent home every Monday, so that you can track your child's results each week, and practise any that your child got wrong.





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In addition to this, the children will have a 'pick and mix' style homework set each half term with a range of tasks related to the learning taking place in the classroom. This homework will help deepen the children's understanding of different areas of the curriculum as well as offering children the opportunity to make some independent choices within their learning. Children should also be encouraged to read daily at home and talk about what they have read with an adult, to support their developing literacy skills. All homework (apart from reading) will be issued in the second week of term.

### **Water bottles**

We encourage the children to drink water often in class. Please send your child to school with a full water bottle each day. It is important that water bottles are filled before the children come to school, so that we have plenty of time for our morning tasks. The children are welcome to refill their bottles if they finish them before hometime. Please ensure your child takes their water bottle home at the end of each day to be washed, and do not send your child in with any fruit squash - on the one hand, when spilt, it can cause damage to children's books but there is also evidence that drinking squash from water bottles can cause damage to developing teeth and gums.

As ever, we very much appreciate your support as we work together to develop your child's learning but if you have any concerns at any time, please do not hesitate to contact us. Under current conditions, face to face contact between parents and teachers is very limited so if you need to get in touch, please use your child's reading record or by emailing or telephoning school.

We look forward to an exciting term ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Darby and Mrs Lee

