



# Gusford Primary School

*“Promoting Achievement and Success.”*

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*Headteacher: Mr C Tapscott B.A. (Hons)*

5th September 2016

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

**Welcome to Year 2! We hope that you had an enjoyable and relaxing summer holiday.**

We thought that it would be helpful to provide you with an overview of the things that will be expected of your child this year and provide you with some information that we hope will help your child settle quickly into Year 2.

**“Meet the Teachers” Meeting – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September : 09h00-09h20.**

**We would like to invite you to an informal meeting where you can come and meet your child’s teachers and some of the support staff that will be teaching your child this year. During the meeting, we will provide information about what your child can expect this year and an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have.**

## Reading

Children will bring home a personal Reading Record Book and two books for them to read at home and in school. This reading diary will be an important document this year as it will give you the opportunity to record, share and discuss your comments when you hear your child read. It also gives the teacher an opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge the efforts they have put into their home reading.

We would encourage you to hear your child read as frequently as possible (at least 5 times a week). It may be that an older sibling, grand parent or relative may hear your child read and their comments can also be recorded.

We would ask that your child’s Reading Record Book and books be in school every day as either we or their Teaching Assistant will attempt to hear your child read individually at least once a week and our Adult Support staff will also be available to hear children read.

The children are encouraged to inform us when they need to change one or both of their reading books. There is no expectation of how often this should be but obviously your child will benefit from regularly reading with an adult as often as possible. Please ask your child to let their teacher know if they need to change their books and we will arrange for these to be changed at the earliest opportunity.

## Homework

We will not initially be asking the children in year 2 to complete any additional regular weekly homework, other than regular reading and the reading activity book tasks. However as the year



The *Active Learning* Trust



progresses we may send a homework task home that links to preparation for an activity that will be completed in your child's lesson. We may also ask you to complete individual activities with your child, if we feel they would benefit from additional support in a particular area (e.g. number bonds, times tables, reading comprehension, etc).

### PE

Children will do PE on the following days:

Kangaroos (Ms Gray): Monday & Friday

Tigers (Miss Cumberland): Tuesday & Wednesday

Rhinos (Mr Davies): Tuesday and Friday

Ideally children should have their PE kit in school all week, as there are sometimes occasions when PE days need to change, or we undertake extra sessions. Children's PE kits should include a white T-shirt, dark shorts and plimsolls or trainers. Because children will be doing some PE outside this term, it would also be beneficial for them to have some tracksuit bottoms and/ or an outdoor jumper to help keep them a little warmer. Children with long hair should have it tied up or bring a band to tie it up with and all earrings and jewellery should be removed. If your child finds it difficult to take out their own earrings, please remove these before school on the days your child has PE, or alternatively ensure your child has some tape or plasters to cover their earrings to prevent injury.

### Playtimes

We encourage children to bring in a *healthy* snack for them to enjoy at morning break. This can be fresh fruit or vegetables or dried fruit. We would ask that if loose items, e.g. grapes, strawberries, carrot sticks, are brought in, that they be placed in a disposable sandwich bag or small plastic container that is clearly labeled with your child's name and class.

We would also remind you that children's personal toys should not be brought into school (unless it is part of a class 'Show & Tell' or other class activity). Skipping ropes can be brought in but we would ask that only those skipping ropes with light-weight handles be used as we have unfortunately experienced accidents with the heavier, wooden-handled ropes.

### Lost Property

We all know that it is easy to mislay or lose items and children are no different! We unfortunately had to dispose of a huge amount of unnamed lost property last year ranging from t-shirts to wellington boots and jumpers to coats. In order to help us return any lost or mislaid items to your child we would ask that *all* items of clothing be clearly labelled with your child's first and second name.

### Behaviour

The aim is to create a positive environment to enable the children to learn effectively. Some changes have been made to ensure positive behavior is rewarded and give opportunities for a child who may have made a poor choice to get back on track quickly. A letter explaining this in more detail will be sent out shortly.

### And finally...

We always welcome, and appreciate additional parental support in our classrooms. If you think you would be interested in helping in your child's class, please let your child's teacher know. All of our regular helpers will either need to have a CRB check or if hold a current CRB certificate.

We hope that this provides an outline of some of the things that you and your child can expect this term and hope that your child enjoys being in Year 2!

Yours sincerely,  
Ms Gray, Miss Cumberland and Mr Davies

