



ELTHAM
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL
SINCE 1814

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11 September 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome to North and Corbett classes. We hope you all had a good summer. Our work this half term will be based on "Ourselves". Part of our work will be looking at bodies and health, so if you have any books or photos we could borrow, please send them in. Our role-play area will become a doctor's surgery. Our Maths topics will include sorting, counting, shapes and length.

Children have access to our outside area daily even when it is raining as we have a covered space so please make sure your child has a waterproof coat with a hood in school every day. We hope you will support reading workshops on Tuesday afternoons at 3.00pm. This is an informal reading time when you can come and share a story with a group or just your own child. Younger brothers and sisters are welcome, as are nannies and grandads!

We have a literacy and numeracy session every day when the children work with an adult, either Miss Inns, Miss Day or our classroom assistants Mrs Slevin, Mrs Bernard and Mrs Pender, on an adult-directed activity. We keep most of this work in school for assessment purposes and send it home at the end of the year. The children also work on their own initiated tasks in the creative area and at the writing table and they are able to bring these pieces of work home each day.

At the beginning of the school day you are very welcome to come into the classroom and help your child hang up their coat, change their reading and story book, find their name and choose an activity, please encourage them to be as independent as possible and leave as soon as they are settled. We will be available at this time for a quick conversation, if you feel you need more time to talk about your child it is probably better to arrange a time either before or after school.

Children bring home 2 books each day, one is a story for you to read to them to encourage their love of books, the other is a reading book which you and your child can read together. We would be grateful if you could record only the reading books you share in the Home School Contact Book and make a comment about how your child responded to the books you/they read. This will help us to monitor their reading progress and keep them working at the correct level. We will be commenting in your child's Home School Contact Book at least once a fortnight. If you have any concerns please come and speak to us.

Soon your child will have 4 letters/sounds per week to learn in a sound book and later some Tricky words in a word book. Please help your child to practise these at home. Alongside this a phonics pack will be sent home which will give you activities and tools to help your child with their phonics.

At school we like the children to be able to have drink of water available in the classroom all the time, to make this possible we ask parents to provide a refillable hard plastic drinks bottle for the classroom which the reception staff will clean and refill each day. This bottle will remain at school for the duration on their Reception Year so please no 'favourite' bottles!

Yours sincerely

Mrs Hunt, Early Years Foundation Stage Leader
Miss Inns | North Class Teacher and Miss Day | Corbett Class Teacher