

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

I hope you all had a relaxing holiday, but as the new school year begins once again, I would like to take this opportunity to say welcome back! It's wonderful to see the children looking so smart and eager on their return! This letter is simply to give you a bit of information about some of the topics your child will be looking at over the next term, along with some more general information. Hopefully it will be of some help to you!

This year we are lucky enough to have Mrs Squires, Mrs Wilson and Mrs Wells working in our class supporting the children's learning. They will split their time between the three classes in upper key stage 2.

Homework will continue as of last year. Learning Logs will be handed out on a **Wednesday** and will be due back on **Monday**. It is requested that the children attempt all the work set to the best of their ability and return their logs on the correct day.

Children as always have access to the Junior Library and will choose a reading book that they should take home each night and bring to school each day. This has been delayed slightly at the start of the year as we have been unable to access the library due to redecoration. Please bear with us with this! Please encourage your child to read regularly at home, sometimes aloud, as this often happens less and less as the children get older! Practising times tables regularly at home will also help your child with their Maths work in school.

While the school happily provides the children with the resources they need for their work, there are a few resources that your child may wish to bring for themselves. In upper Key Stage 2, the children are allowed to begin using a **handwriting** pen for some of their work, however they are not permitted to use a ballpoint or a roller ball pen. Pencils, sharpeners, rubbers and rulers are provided for the children to use, however they are welcome to bring their own. We do ask the children to treat the resources provided by the school with respect, as unfortunately this does not always happen and we do not have a limitless supply!

We encourage the children to drink water at school, so it would be really useful if your child could bring with them a refillable water bottle labelled with their name (preferably with a sports top to avoid spillages!) These are kept at the back of our classroom and the children can access them when they need to.

Our PE session will be on a Wednesday afternoons and this year we are also lucky enough to have a PE coach work with the children during PPA time. The children are requested to bring their kits in at the start of every half term. This should consist of a white T-shirt and a pair of shorts, pumps for our indoor sessions and trainers for outdoor PE. Please ensure that every part of your child's uniform is clearly labelled! Boys are not permitted to wear football kits during school P.E. lessons, nor should they be wearing them underneath their school uniform.

Topics for the Term:

Topic: The children will be learning about life in Victorian times and in particular what life was like for children living during this era.

Literacy: This term we will be looking at fiction genres, along with reading Literature set in Victorian times, to link in with our History topic. We will also be learning about poetic style and play scripts and will be looking at argument texts.

Science: Our Science work this term will focus around Changing Circuits, Changing Sounds and finally Reversible and Irreversible Changes.

ICT: In our ICT work this term we will be looking at Data Handling. We will be creating and searching databases and will be using data loggers to measure levels of light and sound. We will also be learning about spreadsheets and formulae.

R.E: In our RE topics this term we will be talking about our Homes and Families.

PE: Games and gymnastics.

Art: We will be sketching Portraits and will look at the work of William Morris and other Victorian artists.

Music: We are going to be continuing to learn how to play brass instruments!

Design Technology: The children will be designing and creating Victorian samplers.

I hope this letter has been of some help and I look forward to meeting you at Parents Evening later on in the term. If at any time you have any queries or concerns please contact me as it is vital that we work together to ensure that the children's time at St Alban's is a successful experience.

I look forward to a positive year.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Muldoon