



Meltham CE Primary School
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Headteacher Mr P Gibbins

Autumn Curriculum Newsletter 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome to Foundation Stage at Meltham CE Primary School!

The children have settled into their new classes exceptionally well and we are really looking forward to our Autumn inspired learning.

The topics that we will be looking at this half term are 'Magnificent Me' and 'Here We Are' (a book by Oliver Jeffers). In English, we are learning to recognise and write our full names, mark make with meaning and purpose and to confidently communicate with adults and peers about our own experiences. In maths, we are looking at recognising numbers, ordering numbers and amounts of objects and touch counting correctly. We will be sharing books with the children and discussing the features of them e.g. title, blurb, author, illustrations. The children have lots of opportunities to explore and play in a variety of different areas. Through play, the children will learn how to share, take turns and play cooperatively with others.

Reading books

We aim to begin sending reading books home on **Monday 28th September**. Your child will receive a reading book each Monday and we ask that your child reads it daily throughout the week and returns it each Friday. We will then quarantine the books over the weekend to distribute them the following Monday. To start, your child may receive a 'talk about' book. This is a book without words. They are designed to allow the child to tell a story through their own words. Lots of conversation is encouraged between the adult and child in order for the child to demonstrate a good understanding of the story through pictures. In class, your child will have a different reading book which they will read to the adults in school. We will send home a reading journal for your use, which should remain at home. You could record the book title, date and some comments about how your child has read for your own information.

Forest School

Class 1 & 2 are participating in Forest school this half term. This will happen on a Wednesday afternoon during school time. **We are asking that your child comes to school each Wednesday of this half term in warm, comfy, outdoor clothes (not school uniform).** We have been advised by Mrs. Patterson (our Forest school teacher) that children need to come to school dressed in a long-sleeved top and long trousers/leggings. This is due to protecting your child from midges and nettles. It can be a lot cooler in the woodland area, due to the shade. As the term goes on and the weather changes, the children will need to be clothed appropriately for this. This may include layers (which can be taken off when appropriate), hats, scarves and gloves. We are aware that some children already have waterproofs and wellies in school and these will be used when needed. Forest school is a wonderful opportunity for the children to explore, play cooperatively and experience another aspect of school life.

Magnificent Me topic – Me Box

For our topic 'Magnificent Me', we have a series of 'Show and Tell' sessions, where the children have the chance to share with the class a little bit about themselves. The children can decorate a shoe box at home, and fill it with a few special items which they can confidently talk about to the class. These could include items related to;

- My family
- My pets
- My favourite foods / place
- My favourite hobbies / music
- My special things (e.g. special clothes, baby items, cuddly toy etc)

Please bring the completed 'Me Box' into school on Monday 5th October 2020

We will quarantine the boxes first, then begin the presentations in class on Wednesday 7th October.

Water bottles

It's thirsty work in Foundation Stage so please ensure your child has a **NAMED** water bottle containing **WATER** each day.

Naming belongings

Please ensure all items of clothing and footwear are clearly **named** and **recognisable** to your child.

Twitter

You can keep up to date with all our activities and news by following us on Twitter @foundmelthamce. We tweet frequently, and it is a wonderful way for you to see what we are up to and occasionally we will set challenges for you to complete at home. Information is also displayed on the class windows and website, plus Mr Gibbins emails out the whole school newsletter 'Headlines' each Friday.

Please feel free to ask if you have any queries or problems.

Thank you for your continued support

The Foundation Stage team.

Class Teachers and Educational Teaching Assistants

Class 1 – Mrs. Wimpenny and Miss Ingham

Class 2 – Mrs. Osborne and Mrs. Taylor

PPA Teachers – Mrs. Turner (Class 1) Mrs. Haynes (Class 2)