



**GRETTON
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

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Headteacher: Mr R Woolston BEd (Hons)



8th January 2019

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a very Happy Christmas. Our topic this half term is *Off We Go!* We will be learning about transport and journeys.

Barnaby Bear

Barnaby would like to visit all the children for a weekend either this term or next to join in with family activities. It would be great if you could add a photo or two to his scrapbook during his visit for your child to share with the class.

Bus ride to Winchcombe

On Tuesday 22nd January we will be taking the Robins on a public bus ride to Winchcombe. While we are there we will buy stamps and post letters to our Big Friends, visit the library to listen to a story read by one of the librarians and go to the park for a picnic and play so please provide a packed lunch. We would ask for a voluntary contribution of £2.00 to help cover the cost of the bus ticket and stamp to be paid to the office please.

Explorer Dome

On Friday 1st February the Robins will be visiting the 'Explorer Dome' in Gretton Village Hall which has been kindly funded by FOGs. Inside the dome the children will be given a story-telling introduction to the moon, stars and the beauty of the night time sky. They will find out how to see a picture of Orion as a dot-to-dot in the winter sky and hear some of the wonderful stories written into the stars.

Reading Books

It is great to see the progress the children are making with their reading. A little every day really makes a difference. Be guided by your child, some days they may read through a whole book and other days just a few pages but little and often is much more beneficial than a long marathon session! Please keep reading records and reading books in their bookbags even when they are not ready to be changed so that we can read with them in school and write comments.

Sound books and tricky words

This term the children will be learning the trickier 'digraphs' and 'trigraphs', these are sounds made of 2 or 3 letters e.g. th/ai/igh/ear. We will learn these at a slightly slower pace than the single sounds, please help your child to practise recognising them at home. They will also be bringing home some more tricky words to be learnt by sight.

Show and Tell

Children are encouraged to bring in things of interest to show and talk about, particularly from places of interest, books about our topic or pictures and writing they have done at home. We do, however, discourage them from bringing in toys.

Wow vouchers

The children have a new sheet of 'wow vouchers' in their book bags to celebrate their achievements outside of school. Please fill in a voucher when you feel your child has achieved something that you would like them to share with the class and leave it in the letter folder on the classroom door. It could be working hard on their reading at home, completing a tricky puzzle, trying a new food, helping around the house-anything you feel deserves a clap!

Forest School

It is particularly important at this time of year that the children keep warm, so they will need plenty of layers including thick socks or an extra pair, warm gloves (waterproof ones if possible) and a hat. Sessions will continue on Friday mornings this term beginning January 11th.

Snacks

As a healthy school, we ask that children have fresh fruit or vegetables as their morning snack rather than processed or packaged food items. Please remember to write their name on the skin or put them in a named container so the children can easily identify their own snack. Drink bottles should be filled with water only.

Lining up time

Just a reminder that the school day begins at 8.40am and children should arrive just before this time ready to join their line when the bell rings. Now the children are well settled at school and familiar with daily routines it would be helpful if parents could leave the playground in the mornings just before or as the children line up. Mrs Lacey and I will make sure we are outside before the bell rings to help with any children who are feeling a bit wobbly. It is important that the children learn to make a quiet and calm line so that they are ready to listen and learn as they come into school.

Thank you for all your lovely Christmas cards and gifts, they were very much appreciated.

Happy New Year,

Mrs Netting