

Elf Owls Information for Parents 2016/17

Class Teacher: Miss Clay

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Anger



We would like to take this opportunity to welcome your child to Elf Owls Class. We are very much looking forward to working with the children and working together with you to build a partnership that will enable your child to do their very best during this year at Hambleton.

We have found that children do their best when you are actively involved and interested in what they do at school. Your involvement might range from talking to them about what they have been learning, to reading with them, helping with homework, or even coming into school to work with us. If you have any questions about what you can do to help your children, please ask and we will be very happy to help.

Curriculum: We enjoy creating a varied and interesting curriculum through which the children have lots of fun and enjoy learning. They have a varied timetable which challenges and supports them across the full range of subjects. English, Maths and Phonics are taught daily, whilst other subjects are taught weekly, all of which are based around a topic.

Our topic this half term is 'Marvellous Creations'. We will be learning all about chocolate factories, making our own chocolate bars and creating artwork based around our theme. We will also be considering the importance of a balanced diet.

Please note that whilst we do not do 'show and tell' in Elf Owls, we would be very interested in anything your child wishes to share relating to our class topics. Should you have any skills or expertise that you would like to share with us to support our topics, we would love to welcome you into our classroom to help us learn 😊.



The start of the school day: In Elf Owls Class, we strive to provide every opportunity for the children to develop their independence and confidence. We therefore ask that Parents allow their children to come into the classroom on their own. We thank you for your support in this matter. We do understand that this can be difficult at first and are happy to discuss any concerns that you may have.



Communication: Within the first few weeks of term, all children will be issued with a new 'Link book'. Your link book and other resources from Class 1 can now be kept at home. This booklet will be used as one of our means of Home/School communication. If you have used the link book to write a message, please ask your child to show this to Miss Clay when they arrive at school. Should you have any questions or concerns, you are always welcome to talk to a staff member in our class at any time.

Playtime fruit/drink: Your child has been provided with their own water bottle which needs to be taken home each night to be washed, filled and returned – a hydrated brain is an active one so we encourage the children to drink plenty throughout the day. We provide fruit for a snack at playtime but some children also like to bring their own fruit – please note that only *fresh/dried fruit* is permitted as an additional snack.



PE: This term, Elf Owls will be doing PE on **Monday** and **Thursday** when children will need to wear a red t-shirt and black shorts. For outdoor games the children may also wear additional warm clothing suitable for the activity – appropriate footwear (trainers) and a change of socks are also necessary. No jewellery should be worn for health and safety reasons, and earrings should be removed. If your child cannot remove their own, it would be helpful if they were to leave them at home on days when they are doing physical activities. Please ensure all clothing and shoes are **named** so that lost pieces are easier to find! Thank you.

Homework: In Elf Owls Class, your child is expected to complete **weekly** activities to practise key skills at home. These include reading, spellings and basic maths skills. Please look online at the Teacher-Parent Liaison slips each week to see which spellings to practise. Each half term, there are also a number of optional activities for your child to choose from based around our topic. Homework journals can be used to record any activities that your child has chosen to complete and these can be handed in each **Thursday** should you have work to show off! A separate letter will be sent out this week to outline this in more detail, but please feel free to discuss any homework issues with us if you still have questions.



Reading Books: This year your child will have the choice to take home Oxford Reading Tree Books, which they can swap on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. These books will need to be returned before the children can receive a new one on these days. Collins Big Cat Books will also be sent home each Friday as part of our Guided Reading scheme. This involves weekly reading and discussion of books with an adult and a small group of children in school. It is of great importance that you read and discuss these books with your child at home to support their reading development. This year there will also be an exciting opportunity to read regularly with your child in school, so keep your eyes open for more information very soon!

We appreciate that this is a lot of new information to take in, and so have included a weekly timetable to help! Please feel free to ask if you are uncertain about any aspect of routines in Class 2.

<u>Monday</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Oxford Reading Tree book sent home (if returned)▪ P.E
<u>Tuesday</u>	
<u>Wednesday</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Oxford Reading Tree book sent home (if returned)
<u>Thursday</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Return homework if needed▪ P.E.
<u>Friday</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Big Cat Collins Guided Reading book sent home▪ Oxford Reading Tree book sent home (if returned)

Our door is always open so please do come and talk to us if you have any concerns, or if you would like to celebrate your child's achievements!



We look forward to a positive partnership between home and school this year, so that together we can strive to make this a happy and successful one for your child.