



OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**SARAH NISBETT, HEADTEACHER**

DUCKLINGTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL, ASTON ROAD, DUCKLINGTON, WITNEY, OXON. OX29 7US

Telephone: 01993 703651

Facsimile: 01993 709212

E-mail: [office.3122@ducklington.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3122@ducklington.oxon.sch.uk)

January 8<sup>th</sup>

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to the start of the new term, we hope you have all had an enjoyable Christmas break. All the staff would like to thank you for all your kind Christmas wishes, presents and cards.

When planning in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) we base our topics on the needs and interests of the children. Our current topic is based on 'winter and cold places'. In Foundation the focus is on the way children learn which is known as the Characteristics of Effective Learning. They run through and underpin the seven areas of learning and development, as detailed in the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. They describe learning processes that occur throughout every day activities and experiences. They also support the child to remain an effective and motivated learner. Through focusing on the Characteristic of Effective Learning the children will be encouraged to become aware of how they learn, and use the language to explain the skills they use when learning.

**Here is a summary of the different characteristics**

**Playing and Exploring**

Finding out and exploring

Playing with what they know

Being willing to have a go

**Active Learning**

Being involved and concentrating

Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

Keep trying

**Creating and Thinking Critically**

Having their own ideas

Making links

Choosing new ways to do things



### **Phonics Books and Home learning**

Your child will bring home their pink phonics book, please go over this regularly. Home learning tasks will continue to come home throughout the term outlining the learning that has taken place in class. This will also provide you with an opportunity to comment on your child's learning at home and home-learning experiences.

### **WOW Sheets**

Please continue to send in completed 'Wow' and 'Look at me' sheets.

### **Forest School**

Forest School will resume this week on Thursday morning, please ensure your child comes suitably dressed for colder days with warm layers and socks.

### **Reading**

Children now independently choose and change their own books, please encourage them to read regularly and remind them to change their books if they need to do so.

### **Allergies**

Please ensure any allergies or suspected/possible allergies are known to the school, we will often eat food we have cooked within school time, therefore it is important that we know of any potential issues.

### **3:05pm collection of your child**

On the odd occasion you may need to arrange other adults to collect your child, please sign the sheet on the class door before 8:40am to advise staff of this. Any permanent and weekly arrangements should be put in writing to the office and ourselves.

We are very pleased with how all the children are progressing at school, but please do come and see us if you have any concerns or need more information.

Kind Regards,  
The Early Years Foundation Stage Team